

# The Headway Histories

GENERAL EDITOR

F. W. TICKNER, D.Lit., B.Sc.

FIRST SERIES—BOOK TWO  
FAMOUS MEN AND FAMOUS DEEDS

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PLATE I —ALEXANDER'S SOLDIERS COLLECTING SPOIL AFTER  
DEFEATING THE PERSIANS

*[Frontispiece]*

# FAMOUS MEN AND FAMOUS DEEDS

BY

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GENERAL EDITOR

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WITH FOUR COLOURED PLATES  
BY DORIS PAILTHORPE

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## PREFACE

THIS book is the second of a series of four histories which are intended to explain to young readers the place occupied by British history in the story of the World, and more particularly in the story of the people of Europe. Book I tells in simple form the story of those peoples of long ago whose thoughts and works have greatly influenced the development of the British race, and are still influencing it to-day. Book II continues the story to modern times in the form of biographies; and Books III and IV deal with the story of the British race from early times to the present day.

These four books form a complete continuous course of historical study for young people up to the age of eleven. They have been prepared in such a way as to be particularly suitable to the needs of Primary Schools. They form an excellent preparation for pupils who will continue their education in the various Post Primary Schools.

The books are splendidly illustrated with pictures that have been specially drawn for them, and a large number of exercises have been prepared for the benefit of all users of the books. Teachers will find the pictures and exercises a most valuable aid to their history work. Many of the exercises have been made with the object of enabling the pictures to be used by the pupils to the fullest advantage, and include exercises in handwork, drawing and painting.



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## CHAPTER I

### A FAMOUS CONQUEROR: ALEXANDER THE GREAT

WE are going to read in this book some stories of famous men and women and the things they did. All through the long course of the world's story such men and women have lived and acted, and have helped to make the world what it is to-day. Indeed, the world is so full of the stories of famous people and the deeds they have done, that we shall only be able to tell about a very few of them in this book. Our first story will take us back to the land of Greece, the country of the Hellenes. You have already heard something about these wonderful people, how they fought against the Persians, how they had games together, how they worshipped the same gods, and how they loved beauty; and then how jealous they became of one another so that they often quarrelled and fought with one another.

To the north of their land lay the land of Macedonia, a land of mountains and small, fertile plains. The rough peasants who lived there could neither read nor write. But they were partly Greek in race, and spoke a language something like

the Greek language. They were ruled over by kings, who found it hard work to keep them in order. In 356 B.C. a ruler named Philip became the king of these Macedonians. He had lived in Greece when he was young and had learnt many things there. He proved a very able king; and he trained his hardy rough shepherds to fight so well that he soon had a splendid army.

Philip saw that the Greek cities had become weak through their long wars with one another, and so he decided to make war upon them, and become the ruler of all the Greeks. In 338 B.C. he was able to do this, and the Greek cities were united under his control and became part of his kingdom of Macedonia.

When Philip died, his son Alexander became king. Alexander was only twenty years old, but he soon showed that he was an even greater king than his father, who had trained him carefully. His father had got for him the best teachers to be found in Greece, and Alexander loved learning. He thought that nothing was too hard for him to learn. But best of all he loved the Greek poems of Homer, for they told of the wars waged by the old Trojan and Greek heroes.

Before he died Philip had been preparing an army to conquer Persia, and Alexander determined to go on with this plan. So he gathered his army

and marched to the Hellespont ready to cross into Asia. You will remember that over a hundred years before, a great Persian king, Xerxes, had crossed into Europe at this place to conquer the Greeks. Now Alexander, king of Greece and Macedonia, was crossing to conquer Persia. But how could Alexander hope to do this! Persia was about fifty times as large as Macedonia and Greece put together, and had an army twenty times as big! But his little army was well trained, and he himself was brave and clever.

As soon as he landed in Asia Minor, Alexander began to march eastward. He had not gone far when he came to the river Granicus, where a great Persian army was barring the way. Alexander did not hesitate. He mounted his horse and reminded his men how well they had fought for his father. Then he gave orders for the battle to begin. In spite of the size of the Persian army, it was completely defeated. By this victory Alexander freed all the Greek states in Asia Minor from Persian rule.

Then he marched on and came to the city of Gordium. In the citadel there he was shown a rude country wagon. The first king of Gordium had entered the city in this wagon many years before. There was an old legend which said that whoever should unfasten the knot by which the

yoke of the wagon was fastened to the pole would become ruler of all Asia. When Alexander heard this, he at once tried to untie the knot, and when he found that this was impossible, he drew his sword and cut it. So the "Gordian knot" was loosed, and the people around believed that the prophecy had been fulfilled, and that Alexander would become the ruler of all Asia.

Soon he drew near the town of Issus, which is on the borders of Asia Minor. Here he heard that Darius himself, the Persian king, was coming with another large army to fight him. This was just what Alexander wanted.

The Persian army was a splendid sight. In front of the army was a silver altar, bearing the sacred fire, then followed the king's chariot drawn by beautiful white horses. Around him were soldiers wearing robes glittering with gold and carrying silver-handled lances. Then followed all the great host of soldiers drawn from many lands.

The battle was a very fierce one. But although Alexander was wounded he was again victorious, and Darius had to jump upon a horse and ride away. That night Alexander ate the supper that had been prepared for Darius, and slept in Darius's tent. His rough Macedonian soldiers were astonished at the many fine things they had captured and were delighted with them. In the king's tent were

dishes and basins of gold, lovely vases, and fine carpets and rugs, besides a large pile of Persian money.

But although he had beaten Darius, Alexander did not go into Persia from Asia Minor. He marched along the coast to Tyre, and so plundered and destroyed this famous city that it was never afterwards the important city it once had been. Then he went to Egypt, and the people welcomed him gladly, for they were tired of being ruled by Persia. In Egypt he built the famous city of Alexandria at the mouth of the Nile. Since Tyre had been destroyed, the traders of the Mediterranean needed a new city, and Alexandria soon became even greater than Tyre. Traders came to Alexandria from all parts of the East.

From Egypt Alexander set out for Persia, for he had not yet come to the Persian capital. Eastward he went over hills and rivers, and through green valleys and barren deserts, until he came to Arbela, on the river Tigris, near the ruins of Nineveh. There he again met the Persian army under King Darius and defeated it for the last time. Darius was slain while trying to escape. From Arbela, Alexander marched to Babylon, still a fine city, and to the Persian towns of Susa and Persepolis.

Alexander now called himself King of Persia and began to dress and act something like the

Persian kings. This did not please his Greek and Macedonian soldiers. Then he went on eastward ; and wherever he went he built cities something like Alexandria and left some of his soldiers in them. At last he went over the mountains into India, and fought a great battle with an Indian king. In this battle his men met elephants for the first time, and defeated them.

From India he returned to Babylon, which he meant to make his capital. But in the summer of 323 B.C. he was taken ill of fever and died. He was only thirty-two years of age. When he died his great empire was divided among his generals. But none of their kingdoms lasted very long ; all of them fell one after another into the hands of Rome

Alexander was great, not only because of his conquests but because he spread Greek learning all through the East. He loved all things Greek, and wherever he conquered he founded cities in which the Greek language and Greek ideas were taught. So all the people of the East, from Asia Minor to India, heard about the Greeks, and the wonderful things they had discovered or made.

## CHAPTER II

### A FAMOUS GENERAL: HANNIBAL

YOU will remember that the Phœnicians had built a city called Carthage on a harbour on the coast of Africa opposite Italy. This city became in time one of the richest cities in the world. The wealth of Carthage came from her trade. Her ships carried on most of the trade of the western Mediterranean, just as the newer city of Alexandria, that we read about in the last chapter, was carrying on trade in the eastern Mediterranean. For the men of Carthage were wonderful sailors. They knew all the paths of the sea, and kept them secret to themselves. They even knew the way to the "Tin Islands," as a part of the British Isles was called. They had great fighting ships of an unheard of size—galleys with five banks of oars, and with huge rams in the bow for piercing the ships of their enemies.

Carthage, too, had many colonies. The islands of Corsica and Sardinia belonged to her, and she had colonies in Spain as well. The greater part of the fertile island of Sicily was hers also. But Sicily is not very far from Rome, and Rome had become a great city, as you saw in Book I. Now Rome

got much of her wheat from Sicily, and she was jealous of the power of Carthage there. So the Romans wanted to drive the Carthaginians out of the island, and a struggle began between the two strongest cities in the world.

Three great wars were fought between Rome and Carthage. They are known as the Punic wars. The word Punic is the Latin word for Phœnician. The Romans, you see, knew where the Carthaginians had come from.

The first Punic war began about 260 B.C. It was fought chiefly in Sicily. But the Romans were not like the Carthaginians; their power was on the land, while the Carthaginians were more powerful on the sea. The Romans saw that, if Carthage was to be conquered, her great power on the sea must be destroyed. So they began to build warships. Soon they became powerful on the sea, and beat the Carthaginian ships wherever they met them. When their ships were beaten, the Carthaginians were forced to leave Sicily, and so Rome became the victor of the first Punic war and the ruler of the island. Shortly after Rome seized both Corsica and Sardinia. All this was very hard for Carthage to bear.

But the greatest Punic war was the second. Hamilcar, a great leader of the Carthaginians, was unhappy at the failure of Carthage. He resolved



to conquer Spain as the first step in his plan to humble Rome and regain Sicily. For fear he should not live to strike the final blow, he got his little son Hannibal, who was only nine, to swear at the altar of his god, Baal, that he would try to conquer Rome, and would remain her enemy for ever. Hannibal spent some time in Spain with his father, and became used to the rough soldier's life there. When Hamilcar died, the army in Spain made Hannibal their leader.

Soon Hannibal with his brave army had conquered Spain as far as the river Ebro, and the silver from the rich silver mines of Spain brought much wealth to Carthage. But all the time that Hannibal was fighting the wild Spaniards, he was training his army for a greater task, the conquest of Rome.

War with Rome began when, in 218 B.C., the Carthaginians crossed the Ebro, for the Romans had forbidden them to cross this river. As soon as Rome declared war on Carthage, Hannibal decided to make his way by land to Italy. He would not go in ships, for Carthage, as you remember, had lost her power on the sea. Besides, he hoped to get the Gauls who lived in the north of Italy at the foot of the Alps, and the Greeks who lived in the south, to help his army against Rome.

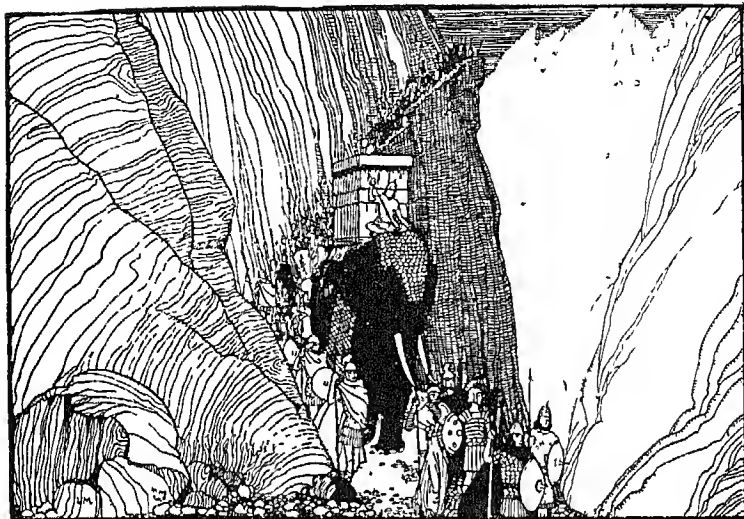
It was a difficult journey for Hannibal and his soldiers to make. First they had to cross the

Pyrenees, fighting step by step with the wild Spaniards who occupied the mountain passes. Then they had to cross swift and dangerous rivers.

Let us try to imagine what Hannibal's army looked like. There were but few Carthaginians in it, for Carthage hired most of her troops from other nations. There were thousands of Celts or Gauls from the mountains of Spain in white woollen tunics edged with red, and carrying spears and swords and shields ; there were other Gauls in kilts with spears and long, broad swords ; there were slingers from the Balearic Islands, just off the coast of Spain : nowhere in the world were there such good slingers ; there were soldiers from Africa in leopard and lion skins ; there were horsemen from Africa also in tiger or leopard skins riding on their small, wiry horses. And there were elephants with towers on their backs filled with archers and slingers.

You can understand how difficult it was to get this huge army over rivers and mountains. Crossing the Alps was the hardest part of the journey. It was Hannibal's pluck and bravery in crossing these mountains that made him famous. For on the mountains there was desperate fighting with the natives ; there was the bitter cold ; there was hunger, for they could not carry much food ; and there was dangerous climbing to be done.

To make the passage more difficult still, it was



HANNIBAL AND HIS TROOPS CROSSING THE ALPS.

The pathway is narrow and difficult for an elephant

October, and ice and snow lay thickly all over the mountainous ground. Great avalanches sometimes fell on the soldiers and buried them. Roads had to be made for the elephants to walk along. Ancient writers tell us the strange story that Hannibal softened the rocks with fire and vinegar, and thus cut a way through the stony ramparts of the Alps. This story is perhaps no more wonderful than many other stories of his passage of the Alps.

Many men and animals perished from hunger and cold. Hannibal himself lost one of his eyes, but his strength and activity never failed him. He

could endure heat and cold, fatigue and hunger without seeming to suffer, and he was so kind and cheerful to his men that they never wanted to leave him in spite of all their difficulties and hardships.

When Hannibal at last arrived in Italy, half his army had been lost. It was this little, worn-out army that had to face the power of Rome with her army of many thousands of men, untired and ready for battle. But the little, worn-out army had Hannibal for its leader.

For fifteen years Hannibal stayed in Italy fighting the Romans. He never lost a single battle. But though he could defeat the Roman army, he could not capture the city of Rome itself. The Romans were never greater than in those days when they were defeated by Hannibal. They refused to give up hope. For Rome could raise fresh forces, but Hannibal could not get help so easily from Carthage. At last the Romans chose a wise general named Scipio, who made a new plan to beat Hannibal. This was to cross the sea and attack Carthage. Hannibal was at once called back by the Carthaginians to defend his country.

With a new army hastily got together Hannibal met the troops of Scipio in the plains of Zama, near Carthage, in 202 B.C. There, for the first time in his life, this great leader was defeated. The battle ended the Second Punic War. Carthage gave up

Spain and her war fleet, paid an enormous sum of money to the Romans, and even agreed to give up Hannibal to them. But Hannibal escaped and fled to Asia, where he died.

For some years after the second Punic war, poor Carthage was at peace. Then Rome, fearing that she might grow powerful again, or that new Hannibals might be born, made an excuse for fighting her once more. This time the Romans burnt and destroyed her (in 146 B.C.), so that she passed out of history, and Rome was left without a rival in the western Mediterranean.

It was, perhaps, better that Rome won in this great war, because the Romans knew how to teach people of different tribes and customs to obey one rule—the rule of Rome. The Carthaginians did not know how to rule people of different nations, and make one empire of them. Rome, too, was beginning to care for beautiful things, while Carthage cared very little for art but a great deal for wealth. She thought only of using the people of the lands she conquered to make herself rich through her great trade.

### CHAPTER III

#### A FAMOUS ROMAN: JULIUS CÆSAR

AFTER Rome's great victory over Carthage the empire of the Romans grew fast. In the East they conquered a large part of the empire that had once belonged to Alexander the Great. They became masters of Greece, Macedonia, and Asia Minor. About a hundred years after the death of Hannibal Julius Cæsar was born in Rome. His house was a beautiful villa. The floors were made of very small coloured pieces of stone arranged in beautiful pictures and patterns. The walls and ceilings were painted in soft shades. In the rooms were couches and tables of beautifully carved wood. These rooms were built around a square garden into which they opened. In the garden were flowers and beautiful statues, and in the middle a fountain played

Cæsar had a tutor or teacher with whom he worked hard. Every day he went to this tutor, and with him went a slave boy who carried the wax tablets on which he wrote, his steel pencils and his books. These books were sheets of parchment made from sheep-skin or goat-skin, for papyrus

paper was now getting scarce, there had been such a demand for it. Cæsar's books did not open as ours do; they were rolled up like maps.

Cæsar grew up to love Rome. He learnt how well she was ruled, and how much happier and better off the Romans were than the rough people who lived in Gaul (France) and Spain. When he became a man, he took part in ruling his country. He spoke in the Senate, and he was chosen as the Consul, or chief governor of Rome. He became a great soldier, too, and went out to fight Rome's battles.

To the north of Italy, beyond the Alps, in the countries now known as Switzerland, France, Belgium, and Germany, lived wild, restless tribes. These tribes might at any time send their armies into the plains of north Italy to plunder the Roman cities. It was Cæsar's great work not only to conquer these fierce tribes, but to teach them how to live better lives, and rule their cities better.

So Cæsar led his armies of Roman legions over Spain and Gaul, fighting and conquering wherever he went. His men were willing to follow him anywhere, just as Hannibal's men had been. In ten years he had conquered eight hundred cities and many tribes.

He stayed a long time in Gaul, and made it an orderly and well-governed province. The people

began to speak the Latin language, and to trade with the Roman cities. Cæsar's conquest of Gaul showed the Romans that he was a great general, and they were ready to fear and honour him. This was just what he wanted, for he meant one day to make himself master of Rome.

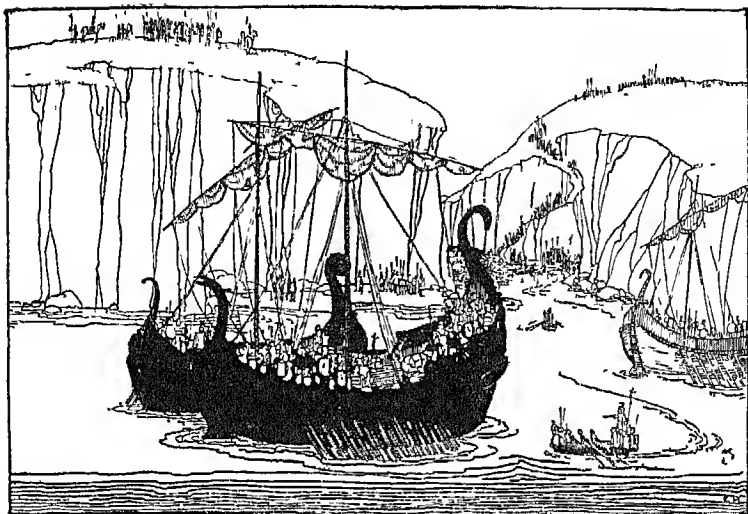
When he was in the north of Gaul, Cæsar looked across the Channel and saw the white cliffs of Britain. He had been told that there was a little island over the sea, not far from Gaul. The people of this island had been helping the Gauls to fight against Cæsar, and he wanted to punish them for doing this. So one calm evening in 55 B.C. he sailed from the coast of Gaul and soon found himself off the coast of Britain.

The white cliffs were lined with painted warriors waving spears. They had large stones ready to hurl into Cæsar's ships if he attempted to land. But Cæsar and his men did land. Some fierce fighting took place, but the wild British tribes were no match for the Romans. At last the greatest of the British chiefs came to Cæsar's tent. He promised that he would never fight the Romans again.

Then Cæsar returned to Gaul. But he had not really conquered Britain. He had only marched as far as the river Thames, and beaten some of the tribes in the south.

While Cæsar was making himself powerful in





CÆSAR'S SOLDIERS EMBARKING ON THE COAST OF GAUL  
FOR THE INVASION OF BRITAIN.

Notice what kind of ships Cæsar used

Gaul, another great man called Pompey was trying to make himself master of Rome. Pompey was now at the head of the troops in Italy. Just as Cæsar had won great victories in Gaul, Pompey had won great victories in the East and had conquered Syria, Phœnicia, and Palestine. He was very jealous of Cæsar's success in Gaul, and feared him. He therefore tried to make his position in Rome very strong before Cæsar came back. But when Cæsar heard that his rival was seeking to make himself master of Rome, he made up his mind to go to Rome, and fight Pompey.

Now it was against the law for a commander to cross the Rubicon, the stream which formed the northern boundary of the Roman states, and enter the country at the head of an army. Yet if Cæsar dismissed his powerful army, and went to Rome as a private citizen, he would be no match for Pompey and his troops. He would have to give up his ambitions, and all he dreamed of doing for Rome when he was its ruler. But if he crossed this river at the head of his army it meant war with Pompey. What was he to do? When Cæsar came to the river, he hesitated and turned to those about him and said: "Even yet we may turn back; but if we cross yon little bridge, the whole issue is with the sword" As he stood in doubt, an old story says that a sign was given him, and he cried: "Take we the course which the gods point out. The die is cast" And Cæsar crossed the Rubicon.

The struggle between these two great men, Cæsar and Pompey, was a long one. But Cæsar was victorious in the end. He was now master of Rome, and soon made himself master of the whole Roman world. He tried to put things in Rome in better order than he found them. He tried to check slavery, he made new laws to help the poor people; he drained the great marshes near Rome; he encouraged the founding of colonies.

But there were people in Rome who did not

believe that Cæsar was ruling for the good of the state. They thought he wanted to be king, and the Romans had a law which said that there should be no king in Rome.

One day there was a great festival in Rome, and Cæsar went out to share in it. He wore a royal purple robe and sat in a golden chair in the Forum, or market-place, to watch the festival. While he was sitting there, a man named Mark Antony came up to him, and offered him a crown wreathed with laurel. Cæsar refused it, saying, "I am not a king; the only king of the Romans is Jupiter." The people clapped their hands at this, for they did not want a king. But Cæsar's enemies still believed he wanted to be king, and so one day, at an important meeting of the Senate, they killed him. His friends avenged his death by fighting and killing his murderers. When the fighting was over, Cæsar's nephew Octavius took his place as the master of Rome, and became the first Emperor of Rome. He was called the Emperor Augustus. This Augustus was the Emperor of Rome when Jesus was born in Bethlehem.

## CHAPTER IV

### SOME FAMOUS WANDERERS: THE GOTHs

YOU have read that on the death of Cæsar the Roman Republic became an Empire. In the first book, too, you learnt about the work of some of the great Roman Emperors. Many of them were wise men who ruled well, and kept the peace. So for two or three hundred years the people were happy and prosperous in every part of the great Empire. The boundaries of the Empire on the north and west were two great rivers, the Rhine and the Danube. Beyond these rivers there lived tribes of people who were very different from the Romans. They were German tribes who had come from the north and east. One of these tribes, the Goths, had settled on the northern shores of the Black Sea. Now they began to come across the Danube in a friendly manner and settle in the Empire.

In 306 a wise emperor called Constantine came to the throne. He saw that these Goths and other tribes, too, might become a danger to the Empire. So he decided to build a new capital near the Danube and the Black Sea, so that he could watch them

better, and protect the people of the Empire more easily.

He chose the ancient Greek city of Byzantium for his new city. It was a good place for his purpose, and he strengthened it with walls, and beautified it with great buildings. It was on a fine harbour at the meeting-place of Europe and Asia. He called this new city Constantinople—the city of Constantine. He tried to make it as much like the city of Rome as possible. It had aqueducts to bring water, a forum or market-place, race-courses, baths, palaces, libraries, and lighthouses to guide the ships at night. Everything was as complete as human hands could make it.

Churches, too, were built, for he was the first Emperor to become a Christian. He made Christianity the religion of the Empire. One of the churches, St. Sophia, afterwards rebuilt by the Emperor Justinian, is still famous for its beauty.

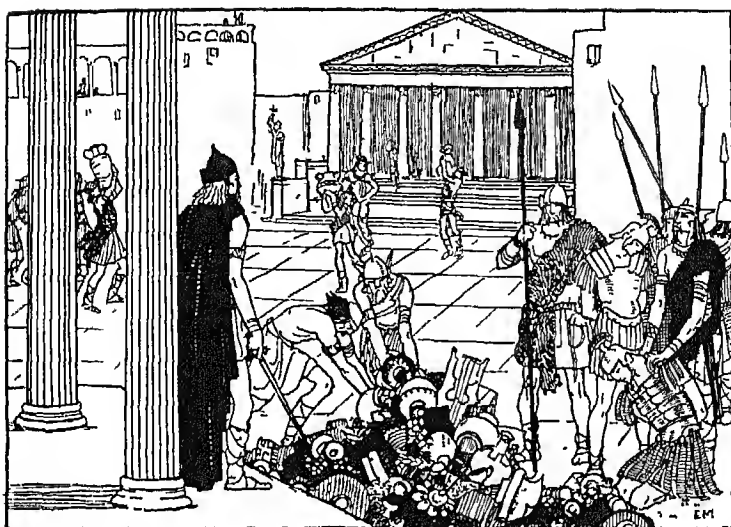
He encouraged Roman nobles to come from Italy and live in his new city. The city grew rapidly and became as great and important as Alexandria.

After the death of Constantine the Great, in 337, the Roman Empire became weaker and weaker. It was now divided into two—a Western Empire with Rome as the capital, and an Eastern Empire with Constantinople as the capital.

The rich Romans too were becoming lazy. They did not want to suffer the hardships of a soldier's life. So the Emperors were forced to keep armies of hired soldiers. These hired soldiers were often Goths or other Germans. The Romans called all the tribes who lived outside the Empire "barbarians." But they were not really barbarians, though they knew very little compared with what the Romans and Greeks knew.

The Goths and their fellow-tribes were on the whole very clever people. They could learn things very quickly, and many had become civilized through trading with the Romans. Many of the Goths also entered the Empire and became Christians. They were fine people to look at, tall, almost like giants, with fierce blue eyes and fair hair. The weaker the Empire became and the less carefully her frontiers were guarded, the easier it was for the Goths to come in.

Then trouble fell upon the Goths who were outside the Empire. A savage race of people called the Huns came into Europe from the wild regions of central Asia. The Huns really were barbarians. They were cruel, dirty, and fierce; they rode on ponies as ugly and rough as themselves, that scampered over the ground almost like dogs. When they invaded the land of the Goths, they burned the houses, spoiled the crops, and drove the Goths before



ALARIC AND HIS GOTHs PLUNDER ROME

Notice the temple and the columns which form its front

them, pressing them on and on towards the Danube, the great Roman boundary.

The Goths were afraid of the terrible Huns, and looked across the river at the well-tilled fields beyond, and the peaceful villages in which so many of their people had settled. They sent imploring messages to the Emperor, asking him to let them cross the Danube and find safety in the Roman Empire. The Emperor consented. Day after day, night after night, big boats crossed and recrossed the Danube, until thousands of Gothic warriors with their wives and children were inside the Empire.

Then the Romans and the Goths quarrelled, and

the Goths, under a strong young leader named Alaric, determined to have a kingdom of their own. First they overran the open country of Macedonia. Then they entered Greece and plundered her beautiful cities. Athens alone was spared because her citizens paid the Goths a large sum of money. Then Alaric decided not to stay in Greece, and he and his followers turned to the west. They marched to the walls of Rome and besieged the city. Soon they captured it. In 410 Alaric entered Rome itself, and allowed his followers to rob and destroy it. After taking Rome, Alaric left the city and made himself master of Italy, and then he died.

His followers buried him in Italy in a river. They turned the river aside from its course, so that they might dig his grave in its bed. In the grave with him they put rich treasures and all the things he liked best. Then they let the river run back into its bed once more, and cover the grave. And so that no one might ever know where his body had been laid, they put to death the men who had made the grave.

Then, under a new leader, they left Italy, still trying to find a land in which to settle. They overran Spain and set up a Gothic kingdom there. This kingdom lasted for many years.

The troubled years that followed the fall of



Rome are known as the Dark Ages. All the Roman soldiers in the west of Europe had to go back to Italy to fight against the Goths, who were attacking it. So many tribes of barbarians were able to enter and wander about the Western Empire wherever they wished. Of all these German tribes the most restless and destructive were the Vandals. At one time they lived near the Baltic Sea, then they pushed their way into the Empire, and went through Gaul into Spain. When the Goths came into Spain they drove the Vandals out. So the Vandals crossed to Africa, robbing, burning, and destroying wherever they went. In Africa they seized the harbours, captured and built ships, and became terrible pirates. Later on they were conquered by the Eastern Emperors and passed out of history.

## CHAPTER V

### A FAMOUS PROPHET MUHAMMAD

WE must now turn from Rome and the Goths to learn about the Arabs and their great teacher Muhammad, who lived nearly 600 years after Jesus was born. He belonged to the country of Arabia, which is largely a desert land. Many of its people, the Arab herdsmen and their families, wander from oasis to oasis across the desert, with their goats, camels, and horses, and live in tents, as you remember Abraham lived

But along by the Red Sea in Arabia there is a strip of more fertile land. Here there are two Arab towns of narrow streets and white domed houses. One little town is called Mecca, and the other Medina. Muhammad was born in Mecca in A.D. 570.

In the centre of Mecca stands a small temple called the Kaaba (a cube) which is believed to have been built by Abraham and his son Ishmael. In one wall of the Kaaba there is a black stone that the Arabs say was given to Abraham by an angel. In the days of Muhammad there were 360 idols in this temple, one for each day of the Arab year.

Muhammad was a wonderfully intelligent boy. His father and mother died when he was a baby, but he was brought up very kindly by his grandfather, and afterwards by his uncle, who became guardian of the Kaaba. When he was old enough, he learnt to be a trader, and as he travelled back and forth across the desert with his caravan of heavily laden camels, he had time to think, as Abraham had. He met many Jews and a few Christians, and from them he learnt something about the Old and New Testaments. The belief that there was only one God sank into his mind, and the presence of the 360 idols in the temple troubled him.

Sometimes he went into the lonely mountains around Mecca to think and pray. The more he thought, the surer he was that there was but one God, and that wise men like Abraham and Moses had been sent by God to teach men this. Then he wondered if he, too, was not also a wise man chosen by God to teach the Arabs to give up their idols.

As Muhammad thought and prayed in the wilderness, God's angel spoke to him and told him that there was but one true God, Allah, and that he, Muhammad, was Allah's prophet and must speak for him.

He first won over his own household, but when he wanted to destroy the idols in the temple, the people of Mecca were very angry, so angry that to save his

life Muhammad had to flee from Mecca with one trusted friend. At first they hid in a cave. When their pursuers came near the cave, Muhammad's friend grew frightened and said, "What shall we do, we are but two?" "Nay," answered Muhammad, "we are three, for God is with us." It is one of the beautiful stories of Arabia that a spider wove its web over the entrance to the cave, and the pursuers passed on, thinking that no man could have entered recently.

Muhammad got safely to Medina, where he had friends. His flight, which took place in 622, is called the Hijra by the Arabs. The year was taken by his followers as the beginning of a new era—the year One, as the Muhammadans reckon time.

Before Muhammad died in A.D. 632, he had not only won over Mecca and destroyed its 360 idols, but had converted all the Arab chiefs to God. His followers he called Muslims, that is, those who submitted and surrendered themselves to God. To please the people of Mecca, Muhammad kept the Kaaba with its black stone, for Abraham was honoured by the Muslims: to this day they turn to Mecca when they kneel to pray to Allah, and tens of thousands of pilgrims flock to Mecca and Medina every year.

After Muhammad's death, the messages he had received from God's angel were collected and written

down in a book called the Koran, the Muhammadan Bible. Some of its teachings are in harmony with those of the Bible, and it has many lovely passages, such as: "To God belongeth the East and the West ; therefore, whither soever ye turn yourselves to pray, there is the face of God."

Muhammad made the Arabs a united nation, and soon after his death, under famous rulers called Caliphs they built up a great empire. They conquered Palestine, Syria and Persia (including Mesopotamia) to the Indus, thus reducing the Eastern Roman Empire to little more than Greece and Asia Minor. They conquered Egypt and extended their power along the north coast of Africa. They crossed the Straits of Gibraltar and entered Europe. In Spain they fought the Goths and took their kingdom. But they could not get farther into Europe because of the Franks about whom you will read in the next chapter.

Everywhere they went they preached their faith : " There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is the apostle of Allah." It was such a simple faith that it spread rapidly. Their churches and mosques are houses of prayer and places for reading the Koran ; no altars or images or pictures are allowed. Each mosque generally consists of a great court surrounded by lovely covered colonnades with prayer rooms and reading rooms. The walls inside are

adorned with passages from the Koran. The round domes are decorated with geometrical patterns, and from the top of tall graceful towers and minarets a crier calls the faithful to prayers five times a day. Five times a day the Muhammadans remember God and say a short prayer wherever they are.

The great empire built up by the Arabs did not last very long, but the religion of Muhammad has continued to spread, and to-day there are more than 200,000,000 Muhammadans in India, Africa, Malaya, and other parts of the world.

We owe very much to the learned Arabs of those early days. From them we get the numbers 1 to 9, and also the nought (0) that we use. They learned a great deal from the Greek scholars of whom you probably read in Book I, and by translating some of their works into Arabic, saved them for future generations to read and use. They also added to the knowledge in these books, and taught the world a great deal about medicine, chemistry, mathematics, and philosophy.

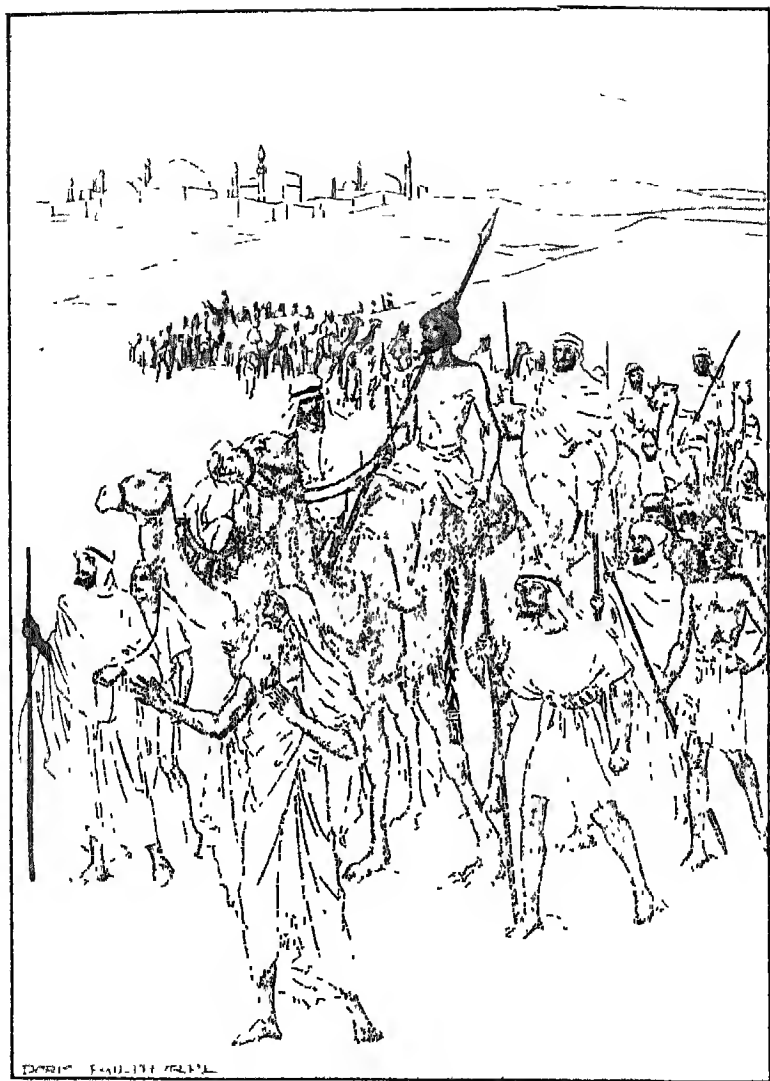


PLATE 2 —PILGRIMS ON THE WAY TO MECCA





## CHAPTER VI

### A FAMOUS RULER: CHARLEMAGNE

WE have seen that by the year A.D. 500 the Roman Empire in the West was coming to an end. Barbarian kingdoms were taking its place. But we must remember that the Roman Empire in the East, with Constantinople as its capital, was still a powerful empire. Its Emperor ruled over a large amount of land, both in Europe and Asia Minor.

Some of these new barbarian kingdoms have lasted until our own days. One of them started with a German tribe known as the Franks. When we first hear of the Franks, they are settled on the banks of the Rhine. These Franks came into the Western Empire in a different way from the Goths and Vandals. They did not give up their land on the banks of the Rhine, but starting from it they conquered by degrees the lands around them until they were the masters of the greater part of Gaul and Germany.

It was one of their leaders, Charles Martel, who won a great battle against the Muhammadans, who, you remember, conquered Spain and tried to conquer Gaul. This victory of Charles Martel kept the Muham-

madans in Spain, and prevented them from coming farther into Europe, and so saved Christian Europe.

The grandson of Charles Martel was Charles the Great or Charlemagne, who became King of the Franks in 771. Like all the Franks who had come into the Empire he was a Christian. His great aims were to make all his people Christians, and to keep the wandering barbarian tribes out of his country. He also added more lands to the country of the Franks. Not only did he fight the Saxons in the north, but he went south over the Alps and conquered the Lombards (or Longbeards), a fierce tribe of Germans who had overrun northern Italy. For his success he was crowned King of the Lombards, and so added a large part of northern Italy to his great kingdom.

Charles was now a famous man ; and the people of Spain—the descendants of the Goths—begged him to come and help them against their foes, the Muhammadans (or Moors as they were called in Spain). These Moors, you will remember, were the masters of Spain. Charles went gladly, because the Moors were the enemies of the Christians.

Many battles were fought. In some the Franks were victorious and in some the Moors. But Charles could not stay very long in Spain, so when he had made himself master of the northern part he retired to his own great kingdom.

One day you will read a fine story that was told

about Charlemagne's journey home. The hero of this story was a brave warrior called Roland, whom the king loved very dearly. On the way back from Spain Charlemagne and the main army went first, while Roland followed with some men to guard the rear. He was to sound his horn if the Moors tried to follow him, or if he needed help. In the Pyrenees, in the Pass of Roncesvalles, Roland and his men were attacked by the Moors. They fought with wonderful skill and courage, and the brave knight only sounded his horn when death was near and the Moors vanquished. Charlemagne heard it, but returned too late to save the lives of Roland and his faithful rearguard.

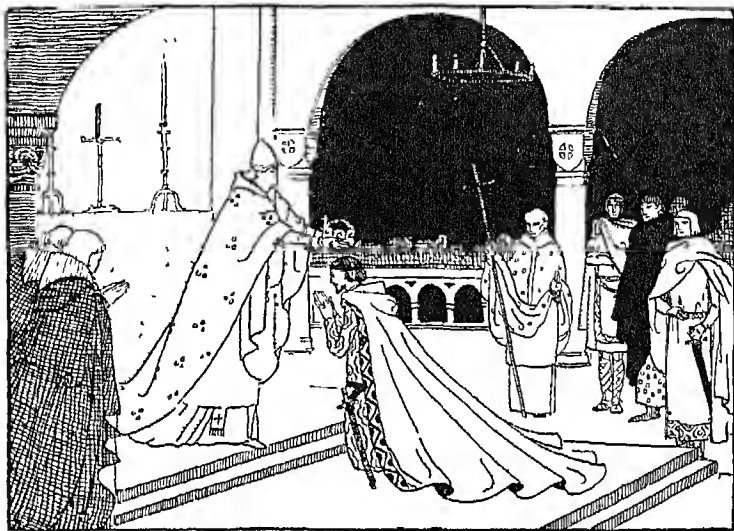
Charles was not only a great soldier; he was a good ruler. He restored law and order as they had been in the great days of Rome. He built roads and bridges, so that his soldiers and messengers could get about the country more easily. He did all he could to spread learning in his empire. He got clever teachers from England, for England in his reign had more learned men than other countries had. He built schools for the children of his nobles. One of his first schools was at his palace at Aachen in Germany, and his own children were taught in it. He also built many churches.

At that time very few people, except those connected with the Church, could read or write. Charles himself spoke German, and he knew Latin

and a little Greek. He could read, but, perhaps because he began too late in life, he could never learn to write. He tried hard, and it is said that he put his writing-book under his pillow to practise directly he woke up. He did succeed in learning to sign his name, but that was all. However, few of the new kings that had made their homes in the old Roman Empire could even read.

In the year 800 a wonderful event took place in Rome, which was now ruled over by its Bishop. This Bishop had become the ruler over the Church, and was called the Pope or Father of the Church. Charlemagne went to Rome and helped the Pope to defeat his enemies, the Lombards. Then on Christmas Day Charlemagne went to St. Peter's Church, a church that had been built by Constantine the Great over the place where people said St. Peter was buried. While he was kneeling in prayer, the Pope went to him and in sight of all the people placed upon his head a golden crown, while the church rang to the shouts of the people: "Long life and victory to Charles Augustus, the mighty Emperor of the Romans, the peace-bringer, crowned by God!"

So the old Roman Empire seemed to have come back with Charles the Great, a German king, as its head. Once again western Europe was united in one empire, and Charles called himself the successor of the old Roman Emperors



CHARLES THE GREAT BEING CROWNED EMPEROR AT ROME

Charles lived to be an old man. He was loved and honoured by all his subjects. He died in 814, and was buried in a beautiful cathedral at Aachen which he had caused to be built.

Some time after his death his great empire was divided among his three grandsons. One grandson took the western part, which was a little smaller than modern France. Another took the eastern part, which was about equal to modern Germany and Austria, the third grandson took the middle part, a narrow strip between the other two which included the Rhine country and part of Italy. He was the grandson to whom the title of Emperor was given.

## CHAPTER VII

### SOME FAMOUS WARRIORS: THE CRUSADERS

FOR very many years after the fall of Rome there was much fighting in Europe. Kings fought against kings, and nobles fought against their kings or against one another. The nobles built strong castles so that they could be safe from their foes. Every young noble looked forward to the day when he would possess armour and weapons and horses, and fight for his lord or king.

The young noble was trained when he was a boy for the work he would have to do when he grew up. His training was called a training in chivalry. In his training he learned how to fight, and how a true knight would behave himself in all he had to do. These were the most important things a true knight had to learn. He must be a Christian and obey and defend the Church. He must be kind to the weak, and defend the helpless. He must be faithful to his lord or king, and never tell a lie or break his word. He must be faithful to his lady, and be ready to defend her. The knights who lived up to their vows did noble deeds and were very fine fellows. But some knights were false and did bad deeds.

When the knights were not fighting for their lords, they kept themselves in practice by playing at fighting in tournaments. But it was not often they had time for these friendly fights. For there were many wars in those days, including some very great and important wars in Palestine, in which many hundreds of knights took part. These wars are called the Crusades.

You remember the wonderful conquests that the Arabs made when they became Muhammadans. One of the places they conquered was Palestine. Now, in those days, many Christians longed to go to Palestine to see the places where Jesus walked and talked and worked with men. The way was long and difficult, for most men had to go on foot. But many people from different parts of Europe started on the journey. Sometimes a man made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land to show his sorrow for some sin ; sometimes to offer up a special prayer at our Lord's tomb , sometimes because he longed to see the places where Jesus had lived. Some men went because they loved travel , others because they hoped to gain large fortunes by carrying on trade with the East . So for many years before the Crusades began, one could have seen weary travellers, generally on foot, with wallet on back and staff in hand, going along the roads, to and from the Holy Land

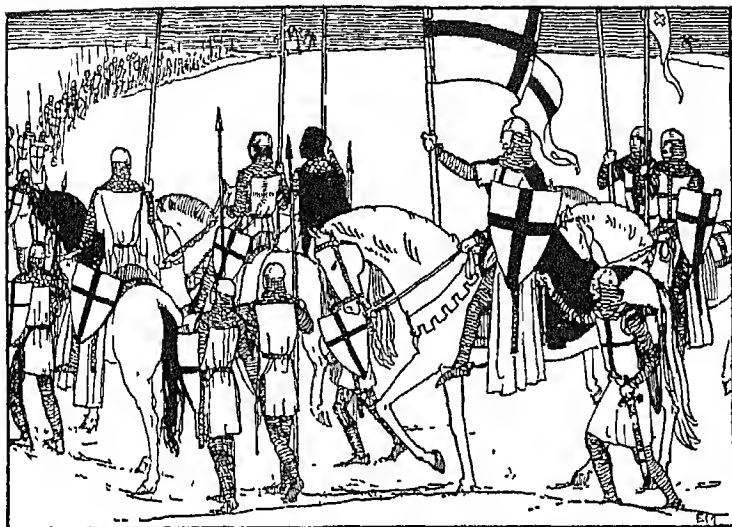
The Muhammadans had now become the best educated people in the world. They knew much more about science, and medicine, and other things than the people of Europe. As they became well educated, they became less fierce and warlike, and more kindly towards the people of other religions. They let pilgrims from Europe come and go unharmed, and build churches and places of rest.

But this peaceful state of affairs changed when, about the year 1087, a new race of people, called the Turks, came from the east, and conquered Syria and Palestine. They were fierce, ignorant, and cruel. Although they were Muhammadans, they did not care for the learning and art of the Arabs. Above all, they hated the Christians, and began to destroy their churches and ill-treat the pilgrims.

Urban II, a good and wise Pope, then ruled in Rome. He heard the pitiful stories the pilgrims brought back, and was very troubled by the sad tales of a French monk called Peter the Hermit. So he called a great meeting at Clermont in France. Perhaps he chose the land of the Franks because they were the bravest and most chivalrous of all the European people.

The meeting was so large that no building could hold it. Urban stood before the people, with a cross stretched out in his left hand. He told them about the sufferings of the Christians in the Holy Land.





CRUSADERS MARCHING IN PALESTINE.

Notice their armour and weapons.

He called on all true knights and brave men to join together and rescue Jerusalem, for it was a disgrace that the most holy places in the world should be in the hands of people who were not Christians. He told them that dangers would beset their way, and suffering would be their lot, but their reward would be great. He promised them that their sins would be forgiven, that those who died would go to heaven, while those who lived would be able to pray at the tomb of their Lord

Then the people gave a great cry, "It is the will of God!" they shouted "It is the will of God!"

"It is in truth His will," answered the Pope, "and let those words be your war cry in battle because they are given you by God. You are soldiers of the Cross; wear it on your breast as a sign of the vow you have made."

Thousands of soldiers took the vow and joined in the Crusade. Indeed, large numbers of people, many of them ignorant and poor, set out at once without any preparation, Peter the Hermit consenting to lead them. But this Crusade only ended in failure, and many died of hunger and disease on the way. In the meantime, the armies of Europe had been preparing, and were ready to depart in the spring of 1096. Kings, princes, barons, nobles and knights rode on horseback, while the ordinary soldiers went on foot.

This great army made its way by land to Constantinople. The Emperor was very glad to see it, for he feared the Turks. They had already taken part of his Empire from him and looked like taking more. Two months later the Crusaders crossed the Bosphorus and were on the soil of Asia. They marched across Asia Minor, a much bigger army than Alexander's had been. After many weary months of marching and fighting they came at last in sight of the white walls of Jerusalem. Each Crusader fell on his knees as he saw the city of his desire and his eyes filled with tears. He put aside

his armour and advanced in pilgrim's garb with bare feet towards the Holy City.

But there was hard fighting to be done before Jerusalem was theirs. More than a month passed and it looked as though the Turks would win. One day, an old story says, in the midst of the battle a knight was seen on the Mount of Olives waving his shining shield to the Crusaders. "It is St. George come to help us," they cried and fought on more hopefully. That day they took Jerusalem from the Turks. A little band of Crusaders was left to guard it and the rest returned to Europe.

Some years later the Muhammadans, under a great leader called Saladin, took Jerusalem from the Crusaders again. Saladin was honest, gentle, and generous. He loved his religion and thought it was his duty to fight the Christians.

In order to get Jerusalem from Saladin, a third Crusade took place. In this Crusade many great kings took part, among them Richard the Lion-heart, King of England. But the third Crusade was a failure. Other attempts were made later, but they also were unsuccessful.

The strangest of all these Crusades was the Children's Crusade. It was led by Stephen, a French boy of twelve, who went singing through the country. Thousands of boys and girls joined him. But the little ones were not strong enough

for the journey to the Holy City: many died of hunger and fatigue on the way, and some were taken by slave-dealers.

Through the Crusades, the people of Europe learnt many things from the East. They learnt about eastern fruits, such as figs, apricots, pomegranates, and plums; about eastern products such as perfumes, spices, oils, carpets, and cotton and silk goods. The demand for these things soon led to more trade with the East. Towns in Italy, especially Venice and Genoa, grew rich through this trade, and the home life of the people of Europe became brighter and more comfortable. Even the art of making and using windmills came from the East. But it would take too long to tell you all the wonderful things and the wonderful stories the Crusaders brought home. One very important thing was that there began in Europe a new learning, which was really a revival of the old learning of Greece and the East.

The Crusaders failed, however, to keep Jerusalem. It remained in the hands of the Turks until our own days. But in 1917, during the Great War, Jerusalem was taken by the soldiers of the British Empire. These soldiers under Lord Allenby cut off and surrounded the last Turkish army in the Holy Land in September 1918.

## CHAPTER VIII

### A FAMOUS SAINT: ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

YOU have learned that when the Roman Empire came to an end, there were dark, unhappy times. People began to forget the clever things the Romans had found out. The only people who thought about learning were the priests. They taught men to read and write, and carried on the teachings of Jesus. This helped to make men gentler, at a time when very many of the people of Europe were wicked and cruel.

Among the men and women who carried on this work of the Church were the monks and nuns and friars. A monk is a man who makes up his mind to give his whole life to the service of God. In these early days when there was so much fighting, men who did not wish to fight, or were unable to fight, became monks so that they could study and worship God in peace. They left their homes in castles or towns or villages and went to live in some quiet place, with only thoughtful men like themselves for companions. A house where a number of monks live together in this way is called a monastery.

But some of the monks did not spend their time in study and worship. Sometimes in their monasteries, shut away from the troubles of the world, they became selfish and lazy. Even the priests, too, did not always act as they should have done. So other men were needed to do what the monks and priests did not always do—that is, make the world better by living good and simple lives and preaching the Gospel. So the friars came forward to fulfil this need. Here is the story of St. Francis, who was one of the first friars.

St. Francis was born in the beautiful old town of Assisi among the mountains of central Italy. His father was a rich merchant, who sold silks and velvets to the lords and ladies of that time. When Francis was born, his father was in France, a land where minstrels wandered from place to place singing songs about knights and fair ladies. He listened to these songs and had such a good time in France that, when he came home, he named his newborn son after the pleasant country across the Alps—Francesco, or Francis, which means “the French one.” When Francis grew older, his father taught him to speak French, so that, when wandering minstrels came to Italy with their songs of chivalry, Francis understood them and learned them. He loved especially the song about Roland, and made up his mind that one day he too would be a knight.

He grew up to be a very gay young man, spending his father's money freely. But he was always kind and gentle, and people loved him for his merry heart.

When he was about twenty, he had a long and serious illness. This gave him time to think. He felt he would be wasting his life if he were only to seek pleasure. He began to long to live the beautiful and holy life of Jesus, which now seemed to him better than that of any knight.

As soon as he was better, he went into the town and began to help the poor and give his money to them. Especially did he help the lepers and the people neglected by others. But, his father did not like his son associating with beggars and became very angry. He told Francis that he must either give up his new way of life or else leave his home. So Francis decided to give up his home and wealth, because Jesus, the knight he wished to imitate, had also done this. Cheerfully he returned all his rich clothes to his father and took instead the worn-out clothes of the gardener.

Then he went out into the world to carry on his work. So long as he could serve and help some one he was happy. Then one day, when he was in church, he heard the priest read the words: "Take neither gold nor silver nor brass in your purses, nor scrip for your journey, nor shoes, nor staves."

These were the words of Christ. His

disciples when He sent them forth to teach. Now Francis felt he knew what God wanted him to do. He must go forth into the world like the disciples of old and build up God's Church in this way. He threw away his purse, his staff, and his sandals. Dressed like the poorest of the Italian peasants in a rough grey gown with a cord about his waist, he set out to help the poor and preach to them in a simple fashion. In this way, he taught some of the beautiful stories in the Bible to the most ignorant and wretched of people.

He slept on a mat or on the bare ground ; he had to beg for bread, but he was always cheerful. He loved Nature and all her children ; he loved " his brother the sun and his sister the moon, the flowers, the bees, the trees, his little brothers the lambs," but most of all perhaps he loved the little birds. There are many stories told about St. Francis and the love that animals had for him.

Once, when he was walking through the marshes near Venice, he saw many birds singing in the bushes and flying up and down among the reeds. " Our sisters, the birds, are praising God," he said to the friend with him, " let us join them." The birds still twittered and sang, and did not fly away when Francis and his friend came near them. And now you will like to hear the sermon he preached them. Down from the trees flew the birds to hear





ST FRANCIS PREACHING TO THE POOR AT ASSISI

him, and they nestled on the grassy ground while he spoke. "Little birds, little sisters, you ought to praise God, your Creator, for He has given you feathers as clothing, and wings to fly wherever you wish. It is He who feeds you and gives you springs and streams to drink from, and great trees wherein to build your nests. It is because you cannot spin or sew, that God takes thought to clothe you, you and your little ones. It must be, then, that He loves you very much. So, my little sisters, be careful not to be ungrateful, and strive always to give God praise."

When he had finished speaking, the birds spread

their wings and twittered to show their love and pleasure, and when he had blessed them they flew away singing their songs of praise as he had told them to do.

St. Francis was joined by some of his friends, one of them a rich young merchant of Assisi, who also gave up all his wealth. These friends believed in St. Francis and promised to obey him. The little band were called "friars" (from the French word *frère*, meaning "brother"). Others soon joined them, and this happy band, free of worldly burdens, went barefoot and penniless, some in one direction and some in another, to seek out and comfort the sick and those who were in trouble. This perhaps was better than shutting themselves up in monasteries like the monks. Very soon, too, other sets of friars were following their example.

As time went on, more and more men became followers of St. Francis, until in three years there was a great brotherhood of his friars or "poor brothers". They not only journeyed all over Italy preaching and teaching, but they crossed the seas and visited other countries. Some time after the death of King John, in the year 1224, they came to England. Soon they were to be seen trudging along the highways of England, or preaching on the village greens. They were always so cheery and so ready to help that they were welcomed everywhere.

They took special care to preach in an interesting way, so that it was said that people flocked to church when a friar was preaching. But above all they tried to make the world better by their own example and their rule of poverty.

Those friars who followed St. Francis were called the Grey Friars. About three years after they first came to England, St. Francis lay at Assisi dying. His friends gathered around him as evening fell. "God is calling me," he said, and he blessed them one by one. A beautiful story says that, although it was evening time and his little brothers the larks should have been sleeping, they hovered round him singing sweetly as he passed to rest with God.

Sad to say, as time went on, many of the friars, like some of the monks, became too fond of comfort. They began to give up their simple dress and life, forgetting that they were "poor brothers." Before he died St. Francis was afraid this would happen; he foresaw that success would bring wealth and ambition.

A stately church was built at Assisi to receive the body of St. Francis, who in his lifetime had chosen a hovel for his home. A great chest was set up in the church to receive the gifts of those who desired to give to the Grey Friars, and so wealth gradually came to them, and they built beautiful homes or friaries for themselves.

## CHAPTER IX

### A FAMOUS PEASANT GIRL: ST JOAN OF ARC

NOW we must leave Italy, and go to France, the country of Charlemagne, about whom you read in Chapter VI. The western part of his great empire was now called the country of France, and had become one of the most important countries in Europe.

In the early years of the fifteenth century, a peasant girl called Joan of Arc was born in Domrémy, a little village in Lorraine, a province of France. Her father was a farmer, and when she was a little girl she spent her time looking after her father's sheep.

It was all peaceful and beautiful in Lorraine. But not far away, in another part of France, the English and the French were fighting one another. The war had begun nearly a hundred years before, and in all that time there had been no lasting peace. The English had been very successful in the war, and when our story begins nearly the whole of the north of France was held by them. Now, the English were determined to conquer the southern part of France as well. But to get to the south of France, they must first capture the great town of Orleans. So they laid siege to

the town in 1428 The French were in despair. Their young king, who had not yet been crowned and so was still called the Dauphin (the name given to the eldest son of the King of France) seemed too weak to lead them. There was no one else to give them courage. They had almost decided to give up Orleans when Joan brought faith and hope back to them. This is the story of the way in which she did it.

Joan often heard her parents and neighbours talk about the sorrow and trouble that had come upon the people of France through their wars with the English, and she longed to be able to help her country. At last it seemed to her, as she sat on the peaceful hillside watching her sheep, that God sent angels to tell her how she could save France. Often she seemed to hear voices speaking to her, and the message was always the same—she was to go forth and help the poor people of Orleans to fight against their foes.

God had chosen her to help France in the hour of need, and it was His will that she should drive the English away, and lead the French soldiers into Orleans.

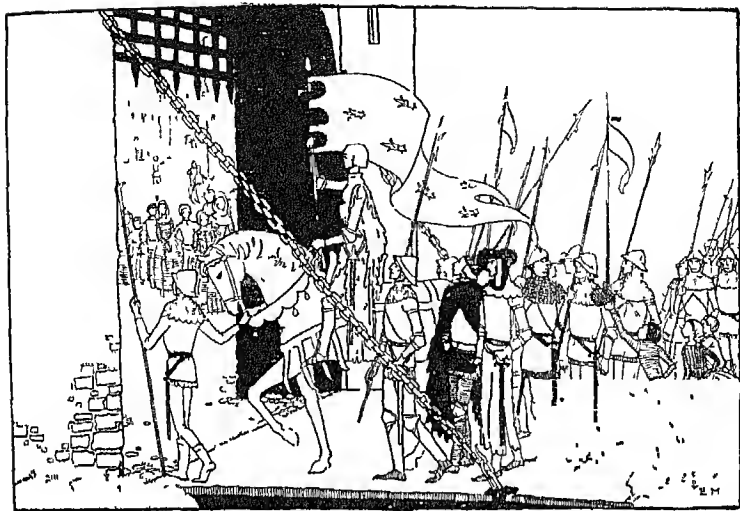
When she told her friends about the voices, they laughed at her. When she asked her father to let her go to help the Dauphin, he told her that a poor girl like her could do nothing for France. At last she got her uncle to take her to the house of a nobleman, who agreed to send her to the Dauphin.

Joan was seventeen when this happened.

Dressed like a boy and mounted on horseback, she was sent with a guard of six soldiers to the town where the Dauphin was staying. When she arrived, she was led into a hall where three hundred knights were feasting. She had never seen the Dauphin before, and he was dressed just like the other knights, yet Joan went straight to him, and kneeling on one knee she said, "Gentle Dauphin, I come from God to save France"

The young king listened to her earnest pleading. At last he promised her that she should lead a band of soldiers against the English who were besieging Orleans. He had a suit of shining white armour made for her. She was mounted on a great white horse, and was given a banner of pure white silk. The French soldiers were wild with delight when they saw her, and were proud to follow her. So in this splendid state, at the head of a great body of soldiers, she rode forth to Orleans. With the soldiers went provisions for the starving people of this town. When from the walls they saw her coming, they cried out, "The Maid is come! The Maid is come to deliver us!" The sight of the Maid fighting at the head of their men made the French so bold and the English so fearful, that the English line of forts was soon broken. The French troops and provisions were got into the city and Orleans was saved.

Joan was now called the Maid of Orleans.



JOAN OF ARC ENTERING ORLEANS

Notice the gate of the city with its drawbridge and portcullis

Proud of her victory, she rode to meet the Dauphin, who bowed low to the maid who had saved France. It was now Joan's wish that the Dauphin should ride with her to Rheims Cathedral to be crowned. For so, she said, the voices had willed it.

More battles had to be fought before they got to Rheims. But always the enemies of the Dauphin were defeated. Then at last Joan of Arc stood beside the altar, holding her white banner on high, while the crown was placed on her Prince's head.

And now she begged to be allowed to go home because her work was done. But the new young king was weak and selfish, and he would not let her

go. He knew the men trusted her and would follow her anywhere.

The end of the story is very sad. One day she was taken prisoner by some Frenchmen who were fighting on the side of the English. These men sold her to the English for four thousand pounds.

Unhappy days now followed for Joan. The English said she was a witch and for this she was tried. It was a long trial and very unfair. Then one day, about a year after she had ridden in triumph from Orleans on her white horse, she was led out into the marketplace at Rouen and there burnt to death as a witch. Those who looked on wondered what she saw, as, holding up a cross in both hands, she cried in triumph, "My voices were from God! They have not deceived me!" One of the English soldiers murmured as he turned away, "We are lost, we have burnt a saint."

The French people who love Joan of Arc tell a story of how, when all was over and only a heap of ashes remained to tell of the cruel deed, a beautiful white dove rose up from the smoking heap and flew towards the sky. It was the dove of peace, they said, that had spread its wings over the dear land of France, which had been saved by Joan of Arc.

After the death of Joan of Arc the English lost bit by bit almost all the land they had held in France, so that by 1453 all that was left of the English possessions in France was the seaport town of Calais.



## CHAPTER X

### A FAMOUS EXPLORER · CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

YOU will remember that the Crusaders brought back to Europe all sorts of new things from the East. Among these were spices. These spices were very useful, and so there was a great demand for them. They were especially popular because so much of the meat eaten during the winter had to be salted. Salt was somewhat scarce and dear. Spices, as well as taking the place of salt, made the meat pleasanter to eat.

The spices were brought a very long way, from some islands to the east of India. Most of the spices and goods from the East were brought along the roads built by the great Persian king, Darius. They came through Asia Minor to ports such as Constantinople. But some of the spices came by sea to ports on the Red Sea, and then were carried by land to Alexander's city of Alexandria on the Mediterranean. Italian merchants then bought these spices and carried them back to Venice or Genoa. They sent them again in their ships to different parts of Europe, or more often over the Alpine passes to the different towns.

As Arabia and Asia Minor belonged to the Muhammadans, the trade in spices was carried on by them. So when the fierce Turks conquered Asia Minor and the countries around, trade with the East became more difficult and dangerous. It became especially difficult when, in 1453, the Turks at last conquered the strong city of Constantinople.

Men now began to think of finding a new way to the Spice Islands, so that they would not have to go through the land of the Turks. This new way would have to be by the sea. But then it would be much cheaper if one ship could do all the voyage from start to finish, without the spices being carried over the land anywhere.

About this time, when men were thinking of a new way to India and the Spice Islands, there lived a poor Italian sailor called Christopher Columbus.

He was born in Genoa in 1451, and when a little boy he often saw ships coming into the port laden with all sorts of eastern goods which the sailors had bought at Constantinople and other ports. He liked to talk to the sailors, he loved learning all the geography he could, and above all he loved the sea. He soon learnt all the geometry and astronomy then known, and everything he could find out about ships and maps.

As he grew older he made many voyages, some around Europe to the northern seas, and some around Africa as far as Guinea. He eagerly studied all the old maps and charts of the ocean that he could find. His studies made him feel quite sure that the world was round. In those days it was generally known that the world was round, though people did not think that it was as far round the earth as it really was. Columbus was very anxious to find a new way to India and the Spice Islands, and thought of the bold plan of sailing directly westward, for if the world were round he would come to the east and India without much difficulty. Like the other people, he did not think the distance round the earth was so great as it was. But Columbus needed ships and money for this great adventure. So first of all he went to Portugal. The Portuguese at this time had become famous sailors and were taking the lead in sea adventures because of their great prince, Prince Henry the Navigator. Their ships were sailing farther and farther south along the coast of Africa. They hoped that they would get round the south of Africa and so reach India in that way.

But the Portuguese would not help Columbus. Instead they found out what his plans were, and secretly sent off ships to the west, to try to make the voyage before he could do it. But the sailors were

frightened when they lost sight of land and came back again. When Columbus heard of this injustice, he left Portugal.

Then Columbus sent his brother to England to ask Henry VII to help him. But the English king also refused to lend him ships or money.

At last he went to Spain where Ferdinand and Isabella were ruling. They had just succeeded in driving the Moors, or Muhammadans, out of Spain, and had made themselves rulers of the land. They had spent much money on their wars. But Queen Isabella listened to Columbus, believed in him, and pawned her jewels to find money for his adventure. Three ships and 120 men were given to him for his voyage westward to get to the East. The ships were called the Santa Maria, the Pinta, and the Nina. They were quite small ships as compared with the ships that cross the Atlantic nowadays. On the 3rd of August, 1492, Columbus set sail. When his men had lost sight of Spain and the great Atlantic stretched before them, they grew frightened. As day after day, week after week, passed by bringing no sight of land but only a wide expanse of water, they grew more and more frightened. They were sailing in seas that no man had ever sailed in before, and who knew what dangers might lie before them! But Columbus never lost his courage or his patience. He tried to interest his men in the new land to which

he was taking them, and he promised a large reward to the first man who should see land.

So they sailed on, until at last signs of land really began to appear. Birds came flying around the ships, weeds were seen floating on the water, and a branch with red berries on it drifted by. Then one night, about two months after they had left home, Columbus saw a glimmering light far away. Eagerly they waited until the morning. When the sun rose, they saw to their joy a beautiful island lying before them. Columbus cast anchor, and went ashore. He was richly clad in his scarlet cloak and carried the royal standard of Spain. He solemnly took possession of the island in the name of the King of Spain, and he and his men praised God for their safe arrival.

Natives now came round the Spaniards. They were fine men, reddish brown in colour, with straight black hair and intelligent faces. Columbus believed he had come to the far east of Asia and that this was some island near China, so he asked for the Great Khan (the old name for the ruler of China). The natives shook their heads, but by signs they told the Spaniards of more land to the south and west. So away sailed Columbus to find other and larger islands near. These islands are still called the West Indies, a name that reminds us that Columbus believed he had reached India by his journey to the west.

It was all beautiful in this new world. Birds of brilliant colours flew about. There were clear streams and rivers, wonderful forests and sweet-smelling flowers. On one island they discovered tobacco and potatoes, two products quite unknown as yet in Europe.

Now Columbus wanted to get back to Spain to tell his wonderful tale. So he left some of his men behind in a little settlement, and sailed for home. The King and Queen of Spain were delighted to see him, and hear all he had to say. The news of a western route to China and India made a great stir. Many other expeditions followed. Columbus himself made two more journeys. He was always hoping to find India and the palace of the great ruler of China.

But now troubles fell upon him. He had rivals who were jealous of him. His health began to fail. He had shown the way to the West and it was easy for others to follow. When he returned from his last voyage, he found the Queen of Spain dead. She had always been his friend and now he had no one to help him. Friendless and almost penniless, the great discoverer died in 1506. He still believed he had found the coast of Asia, and never knew about the great continent of America he had made known to the world.

It was a man called Amerigo Vespucci, who,

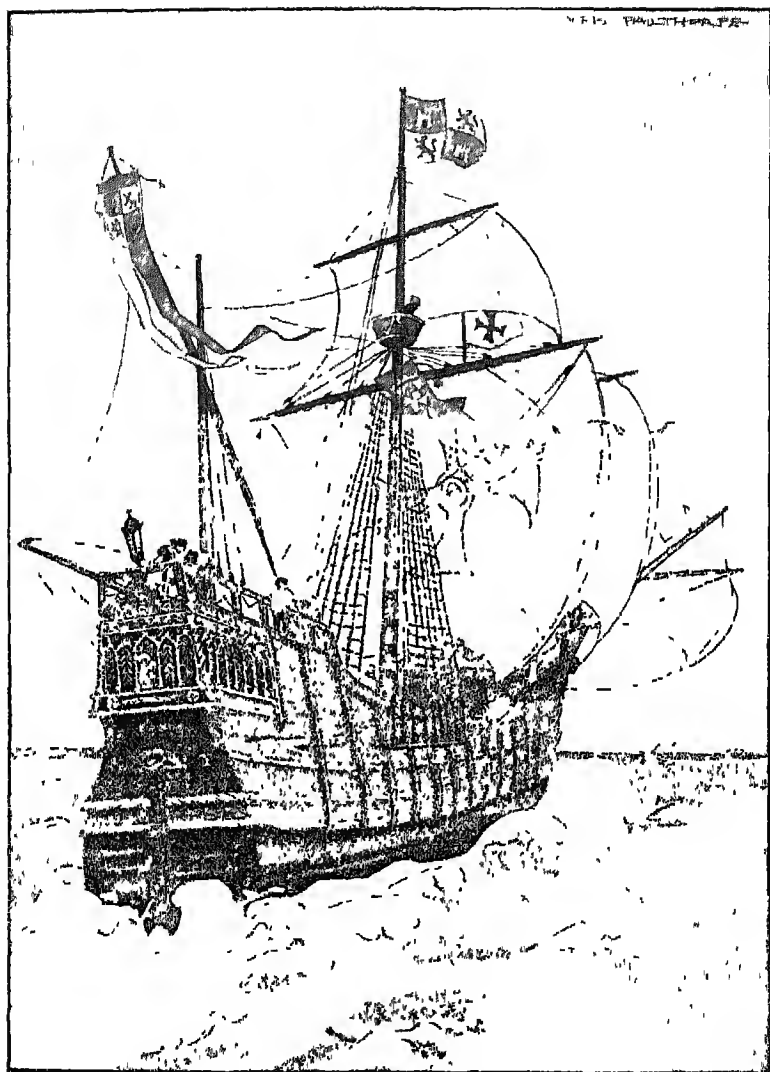


PLATE 3 —COLUMBUS AND HIS SAILORS APPROACHING  
THE NEW WORLD





guided by the charts and experience of Columbus, reached the islands of the West, and, sailing southwards around the mainland, came to the conclusion that it was not Asia at all. "It is proper," he said, "to call it a New World." His ideas were written down and talked about. Later on, it was suggested that this new world should be named after the man who first found out the truth about it. So the name America was given to it. But this fact does not make the work of Columbus less wonderful. He had explored a sea that few had dared to venture across before.

The whole wealth of the New World passed at first into the hands of Spain, and this was right, because the other countries had refused to help Columbus.



## CHAPTER XI

### A FAMOUS PREACHER: MARTIN LUTHER

WE have now come to the year 1500. A thousand years have gone by since the great power of Rome in western Europe was destroyed by the Goths. Many things happened in those thousand years. There were many great scholars and teachers in western Europe during that time. The Crusades took place, and from them people learned many important things about the East, as we read in Chapter VII. Then at a later time great explorers like Columbus made their clever and daring journeys, and discovered many things about other parts of the world.

All these many things caused quite a lot of changes to take place, and then the Turks, about whom you have already learned, began to cross over from Asia Minor and attack the great Eastern Empire. They had already taken from the Emperor nearly all his lands in Asia. They began to come into Europe at the beginning of the fifteenth century, and by the middle of the century they had captured Constantinople. They have held Constantinople ever since.

Now there were many scholars in Constantinople and Greece who spent their time in studying the precious writings in Greek and Latin. When the Turks began to come into Europe, many of these scholars moved westward into Italy to escape them. When Constantinople fell, still more scholars left. They did not wish to be under the rule of the Turks, who cared little for the beautiful things or the learning of the West. So they fled to Italy and other parts of Europe, taking their books and their learning with them.

Up to the middle of the fifteenth century all books had been written by hand, often by the monks in their monasteries. But now some clever men in Germany found out how to print books. Printing presses were soon set up in many towns, and books were made much more quickly and cheaply. So many more people could afford to buy them.

Up to this time the clergy had been practically the only learned men in Europe, and people without books were almost bound to believe what they were told. One result of the invention of printing was that many Bibles were printed and could now be easily read by those who knew Greek or Latin.

It was very unfortunate that, just when men were becoming more thoughtful and eager to find out things for themselves, some of the monks,

friars, and teachers of the Church were lazy and careless men. It was at this time that there lived in Germany a man called Martin Luther. Although he was the son of a miner, his father had given him a good education because he wanted him to become a lawyer. But at the age of twenty-five Luther decided to become a monk, much to his father's disappointment.

In his monastery, he studied hard, and he was delighted to find in the library a complete copy of the Bible in Latin. He had never read it all through before.

The head of the monastery thought a great deal of Luther, and when the ruler of Saxony wanted a good teacher for the new university he had made at Wittenberg, he suggested Luther as the teacher. So Luther went to Wittenberg and became a famous teacher. He lectured on the Scriptures, and by reason of his learning he was able to tell his countrymen a great deal that they did not know.

In 1511 he was sent on a mission to Rome, where Leo X was Pope. Now, as we have read before, there had been, from early times, a Pope or Bishop of Rome, who was looked upon by the people of western Europe as the head of the Christian Church. Luther looked forward very eagerly to seeing the head of the Christian Church. But when he got to Rome he was very disappointed.

The Pope in his fine palace with his many attendants about him, seemed very different from the disciples of Christ that Luther had read about in the Scriptures. The cardinals and churchmen about the Pope also seemed to him very unlike the disciples. Indeed, when Luther paid his visit to Rome things were at their very worst there.

When Luther returned to Germany, he began to tell the people that he thought some of the things the clergy were teaching them were wrong. He wrote down clearly what he thought was right, and pinned this to the door of the church at Wittenberg, so that any scholar who wished might show him if he were wrong.

There was great excitement. Few people up to this time had thought that there was anything wrong in the Church. Copies of Luther's writings were translated into German, printed, and sent all over the land. Every thoughtful man was interested.

A copy was sent to the Pope. But instead of finding out if what Luther said was true and putting matters right, the Pope was very angry with Luther. He thought Luther was just a troublesome monk in a rather barbarous country. He did not realize that this troublesome monk was a student of the Bible who wanted to improve the Church.

The Pope wanted Luther to stop preaching and writing about what he thought was wrong in the

Church. But Luther could not. Instead, he made the Pope still more angry by saying that even the Pope and his Council might be wrong in what they said, unless it agreed with what was in the Bible. So the Pope sent a message that Luther must either take back what he had said, or be turned out of the Church altogether.

When Luther received this message, he called the students and teachers of the University to an open place outside the walls of Wittenberg, and there solemnly burnt the message in a great bonfire which he had prepared. "The die is cast," said Luther, "I will never more be friendly with the Pope, nor belong to his Church." The people around applauded him because they liked his preaching and believed what he taught. It is hard for us to imagine the excitement that went through Germany, and indeed throughout Europe, at the courage of a poor German monk in burning the message of the great Pope of Rome. This happened in December 1520.

The Pope was very angry when he heard the news. You will remember reading in Chapter VI that the Popes had restored the Emperors. The Emperor at this time was Charles V. He ruled over the people of Spain, Germany, and the Netherlands, though some of the princes of Germany were not very willing to obey him.

The Pope now asked the Emperor, Charles V, to



MARTIN LUTHER BEFORE THE EMPEROR CHARLES V

Notice the double-headed eagle, the badge of the Emperor, and the books on the table before Luther.

outlaw this disobedient German monk. Charles commanded Luther to appear before him at Worms. Many of Luther's friends did not want him to go because they feared he might be killed. But Luther was no coward and he went.

The meeting at Worms must have been a wonderful sight. Charles V sat on his high throne, below him sat two messengers from the Pope on great crimson velvet chairs. In the hall were knights from every part of Germany in glittering steel armour ; monks and friars in the different dresses of their orders ;

Spaniards in coats of yellow silk ; lawyers with books and papers ; magistrates and bishops, dignified and grand. But all eyes were fixed on Luther the monk.

Charles V heard all that Luther had to say, and then condemned him. He was to be an outlaw, no man was to help him or give him a home, unless he withdrew what he had been teaching. But the German people and some of the German princes were Luther's friends. They were glad to take Luther's side because they wanted to be free themselves from obeying the Emperor. So they kept Luther safe in a castle until Charles had gone back to Spain. Then he went back to Wittenberg.

While he was hiding he began to translate the Bible into German. It was a difficult task because he wanted to make everything in the Bible clear to the common folk. He went about talking to the labourers and their wives and children so as to find out what were the best words to use. He did his work so well that his book was eagerly read by every one.

When Charles found he could not make the princes of Germany obey him, it was decided that each prince should settle the religion of his own state. Ever since that time most of the people in the north of Germany have been followers of Luther, and those of the south followers of the Pope.



## CHAPTER XII

### A FAMOUS MONARCH: LOUIS XIV OF FRANCE

WHEN we read about Martin Luther, we found that the Pope and the Emperor were beginning to lose some of the power they had had for a very long time. Their power was being taken from them by great kings ruling over great nations. People were now becoming very proud of the nation to which they belonged, and very proud also of their king. They were proud of being Englishmen, or Frenchmen, or Germans, or whatever else they were. This made the kings become more important, and so we begin to hear about very strong kings, such as Henry VIII of England, Charles V of Spain, and Francis I of France, and many others.

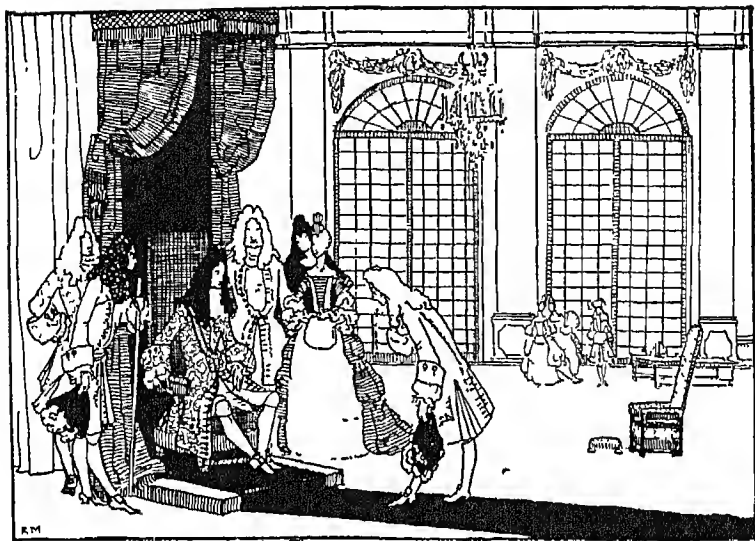
In most countries the kings gained great power. In England, as you will read one day, their power was checked by wise and patriotic members of Parliament. But on the continent the Parliaments had very little power, and in some countries like France the Parliament did not often meet. The kings of France could, therefore, rule just as they wished. They were helped by their great ministers—men like Richelieu and Mazarin.

Now of all the great kings of this time the

greatest was Louis XIV of France. He came to the throne as a baby in 1643 and he was king until 1715—a very long time indeed. Until he was old enough to rule for himself, a great minister, Cardinal Mazarin, ruled the country for him.

When Mazarin died, in 1661, Louis began to rule for himself. He had been brought up to think that the king could rule as he liked, without consulting his people or Parliament at all, unless he wished to do so. He proved a very clever king, and gathered round him great soldiers and sailors and ministers. He set to work to make his court the most magnificent in Europe. He did not want to live in Paris, so he had a wonderful palace built at Versailles, just outside Paris. This cost a great deal of money. At one time more than thirty-six thousand men were employed in building it. The palace had numberless halls and rooms, and a vast garden stretching away behind it. A town was laid out by the side of the palace, where those persons lived who served the king.

The inside of this new palace was very splendid indeed. Marble was used to decorate the walls. They were also adorned with tapestry beautifully woven, and showing in pictures the great events in the life of Louis XIV. The ceilings were painted in the most lovely designs in honour of the king. All the furniture in the king's rooms was made of silver at first, but Louis XIV spent so much money over splen-



THE COURT OF LOUIS XIV OF FRANCE

The picture shows how the nobility dressed at this time

dour and over wars, that towards the end of his reign he had to send whatever could be turned into coins to the Mint, and so some of this furniture disappeared.

The chairs and couches were covered with beautiful materials that were changed with the seasons, green and flame-coloured velvets were used in winter, and in summer brocades with gold and silver flowers and silks of all shades. Perhaps the most wonderful part of the palace was the Gallery of Mirrors. This had seventeen big windows and three hundred and six mirrors.

Amidst the mirrors and the fine furniture of Versailles walked the courtiers of Louis XIV in

tall powdered wigs, silks, and laces. They had high-heeled shoes and carried splendid canes to help to support them. There walked too still more magnificent ladies under towers of powdered hair and wearing wide skirts of silk and satin supported on wires. Here too walked Louis XIV in quiet splendour with his famous high red-heeled shoes that made him seem much taller than he really was. He was always self-controlled and king-like and quite unaware that far away from Versailles poor people, living in misery, would one day grow to hate kings.

Besides being the centre of fashion, Louis XIV's court became the centre of art and literature. Artists of all kinds were welcomed there, great playwrights and great poets. There was Molière, who wrote comedies that delighted the King; there was Racine, who loved to write plays about the old Greeks and Romans; there was La Fontaine, who wrote fables like those of Æsop to delight French children, and many others. No wonder France was great in those days.

Other kings and princes in Europe began to copy Louis XIV, and build palaces of their own as much like Versailles as they could afford to make them. So fine new buildings grew up in France and other countries and a great industry began in beautiful fabrics and furniture of all kinds—delicate and pretty pottery was made and lovely things in

metal, ornaments were carved in alabaster, books were beautifully printed and finely bound in stamped leather, chairs and tables were carved and decorated more splendidly than ever before.

Louis XIV not only tried to show his greatness by his magnificent palace, but by keeping a large army and carrying on wars. He wanted to make France greater still by conquests in Europe, and by gaining colonies and possessions in North America and in India. Like other kings at this time, he began to think of having an Empire in different parts of the world.

Louis XIV was very successful at first in his wars in Europe, because the French armies were better drilled and had better weapons than any others of that age. But soon his conquests began to frighten Europe, and especially Holland. On one occasion France invaded Holland. This little low-lying country is, as you know, saved from being flooded by the sea by her great dykes. The Dutch people were only able to save themselves from the strong French armies by opening some of the dykes and letting the water flood the land which their enemies occupied.

Later on, England took the side of brave little Holland against the French, and one day you will read about a famous English general called Marlborough, who was able to check the power of Louis XIV and defeat his fine army at the battle of Blenheim, 1704, and in other battles. Not only England but the whole

of Europe was amazed at Marlborough's victories. The invincible power of France was broken at last.

But now Louis XIV did a very unwise thing. He began to persecute his Protestant subjects called the Huguenots and drive them from the country.

As the French kings were Roman Catholics, the Huguenots could not hold high positions at court or in the army, so they had taken to trade and banking. In Louis XIV's reign, they had become very wealthy and were thrifty and hard-working. It was they who carried on some of the chief industries in France. They made beautiful silk goods and other things that were bought by foreign countries.

Now Louis XIV was a strict Roman Catholic, and he determined that all his people should be Roman Catholics. In 1685, he began to treat the Huguenots very cruelly, putting to death their ministers and destroying their churches. Their children even were taken from them to be brought up as Roman Catholics.

Thousands of Huguenots managed to escape from France to other countries. Many silk workers went to London and worked there. Others went to Holland, Germany, and Switzerland and did the same. Numbers fled over the sea to North America. So you see that the countries that were the rivals of France gained by this unwise act. But in spite of his mistakes, Louis XIV was a great king, and France was the greatest country in Europe in his days.

## CHAPTER XIII

### A FAMOUS AMERICAN: GEORGE WASHINGTON

YOU remember how the brave voyage of Columbus made known a new world to the people of Europe. Very soon some of these people began to cross the Atlantic and make their homes in America. The first people to settle in the New World were the Portuguese and the Spanish, who began to live in many parts of the centre and south of America. Then the English and French also began to make their homes in North America, and explore its vast lands. The French settlements were in the north on both sides of the river and gulf of St. Lawrence, and stretched westward to the great lakes. This vast territory was called New France or Canada. In the south, the French had Louisiana (called after Louis XIV) at the mouth of the River Mississippi. The British were not very successful at first. Sir Walter Raleigh made a settlement, which he called Virginia in honour of Queen Elizabeth, but it was not very prosperous for a time. This and other British colonies were along the east coast, and were south of French Canada.

Other colonies were founded by the Pilgrim

Fathers. These were English people who left England in the *Mayflower* in 1620 because James I would not let them worship in the way they wished. In the troubled days of James I and Charles I, when these kings were trying to rule without a Parliament, many men who loved freedom were glad to leave England for North America. Here there was enough fertile land for all who chose to take it and hold it from the attacks of the Red Indians. Other new settlements were also made by other persons, and at the time our story opens Britain had thirteen colonies in North America. They formed an unbroken strip of country along the east coast. These colonies were big ones, but they were small compared with the great French Empire of Canada and Louisiana, though they contained very many more colonists. The French hoped to prevent the English colonies from spreading westward by getting behind them and building forts along the Mississippi and Ohio rivers.

It was in those days when the French and English were becoming bitter enemies in North America that George Washington was born in the British colony of Virginia. His home was a farmhouse, and he spent a happy boyhood playing in the meadows and living a free, open-air life.

When he was sixteen, he was chosen to help in a survey of the wild lands lying to the west of the





WASHINGTON AND HIS COMRADE RETURNING FROM THEIR  
JOURNEY TO THE OHIO

Notice how they are dressed and armed.

British colonies amid the Alleghany mountains. These were forest lands, and to wander through the depths of an American forest, with its hardships and wild freedom, was a good training for the future commander of the American army.

Sometimes swimming his horse across swollen rivers, sometimes struggling through swamps or over precipices, sometimes lying down to rest on the bare ground with only trees for shelter, the young surveyor learnt how to do without many things, and how to endure hardships. He did his work so well as

surveyor that he was chosen by the Governor of Virginia to go to the French commander who was building the forts along the Ohio, and ask him why he was invading George III's colonies. You see, the English claimed all the lands to the west of their colonies just as the French did.

It was a long and difficult journey to the Ohio. Washington had seven companions with him. Part of the journey was through an unbroken wilderness, then there were rivers, morasses, and mountains to be crossed, and fearful gorges to be passed. Always around them were tribes of Indians. It took Washington forty-one days to make the journey.

When he had delivered his message, he set out in the dead of winter to retrace his weary route. The horses broke down, so, leaving his men to look after them, Washington and one friend pushed on on foot. With their knapsacks on their backs and their guns in their hands, they made their way through the deep snow, without a path to guide their footsteps or a sound to break the stillness, save the groaning of the trees in the wind or the cry of some wild animal.

While travelling in this way, they met an Indian who said he would guide them. But instead of doing this he led them out of their way and then shot at them. Fortunately, they were not injured, and

Washington spared the Indian's life. Then they walked all night to escape pursuit.

When they reached the Alleghany river, they found it only partly frozen over. They were weary and hungry and only had one axe. But they set to work at once to build a raft. They worked all day at it, and at sunset they launched it. When they were nearly half-way across, huge fragments of floating ice came driving down, and they were unable to keep on their raft. The two adventurers then swam and waded to an island. There amid snow and ice, wet to the skin, with no blanket to cover them or fire to warm them, they passed the long, cold winter night. They were now without means of reaching shore, but fortunately the biting cold that benumbed their limbs also froze the river. When morning dawned, it was bridged with ice, and they were able to reach the shore they wished to gain. At length they arrived home in safety.

War now broke out between the French and English colonists, and Washington was the first to lead an attack against the French forts on the Ohio

Great Britain came to the help of her colonies in their struggle with the French, because she herself was at war with France. The French were finally defeated and the whole of French Canada came into the possession of Great Britain.

But soon a quarrel broke out between the thirteen British colonies and their mother country. Since these colonies no longer feared the French, they felt more independent of the people at home, and this is how the quarrel began. The British Prime Minister thought it necessary for the safety of America to keep an army there to defend it from the French and Red Indians. The question was who should pay for the army. He proposed that Britain should pay part of the cost and the colonies part. To get this money from the colonies, the British Parliament put a tax on them. The colonists refused to pay this tax because they did not send members to the British parliament.

Men from all the thirteen states met at Philadelphia to talk the matter over. They laid aside all their little quarrels with one another. "I am not a Virginian, I am an American," said one of them. They then drew up a letter, which they sent to England, saying that they claimed the right of making their own laws and levying their own taxes. They would not be taxed by a British parliament in London, 3,000 miles away, but by their own parliaments. You must remember that these men were the descendants of those who had left their English homes for freedom's sake, in the days of James I and Charles I.

The British Government took away most of the

taxes, but it still said that it had the right to tax the colonists if it wished. So war broke out. In 1776 the thirteen colonies drew up a Declaration of Independence and called themselves the United States.

How well known and trusted Washington was we can see from the fact that he was made commander-in-chief of the American army raised by the thirteen colonies.

It was a strange army: the men had no uniforms, each carried his own kind of gun. They had to face some of the finest troops in the world—a British army, resplendent in red, white, and gold, with banners bearing the names of the famous battles the different regiments had fought and won.

The Americans won because they had such a fine leader as Washington. He was able to unite Puritans, Roman Catholics, and Churchmen, the farmers of the northern states with the rich squire planters of Virginia and the south. They won, too, because they knew their own country, while the people at home hardly realized how big America was.

It was unfortunate that the British king, George III, was at this time trying to interfere a great deal in the government, and had very poor ministers to help him to rule. France fought for the United States and beat the English on the sea. She felt

she was taking revenge on Great Britain for the loss of Canada. It was partly because of France that in 1783 Great Britain gave in and recognized the freedom of the thirteen colonies and the United States of America began its great history. A form of government had to be drawn up for the United States. A meeting of all the states was held to do this, presided over by George Washington. After some difficulties it was accomplished, and the Americans have ever since been ruled under this form of government. Washington became the first President of the new republic.

When he died in 1799, he had won not only the love and admiration of his people, but a world-wide fame. His home—Mount Vernon in Virginia—is carefully kept as a national memorial to the great American who was “first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.”

## CHAPTER XIV

### ANOTHER FAMOUS CONQUEROR: NAPOLEON

FRANCE became very unhappy after the death of Louis XIV. The poor people suffered from want of food and were made to pay heavy taxes for the long wars, while the nobles had few taxes to pay. The result was a terrible revolution in 1789. The King and Queen were put to death, and France became a republic.

The other kings of Europe now became frightened, especially as the French people said they would help all countries to be as free as themselves. War was made on the new republic, which had quickly got together an army to fight for freedom. In this army was a young soldier called Napoleon Bonaparte. Napoleon was born on the island of Corsica, and his story is one of the most wonderful in history.

He soon showed what a fine soldier he was, and was given command of a part of the French army. In 1796, he was sent with his army into Italy to fight against the Austrians, who in those days ruled over a great part of northern Italy. He was only twenty-six years of age, and his success in

north Italy astonished not only France but Europe. The "Little Corporal," as his soldiers called him, fought eighteen battles and won them all. In a little over a year he had made himself master of Italy. The French were delighted with his success and were ready to worship him, for they loved glory. The Italians, too, were glad to be free from the Austrians.

All the countries of Europe, except Britain, had now made peace with France. The Directors of France (as the new rulers were called at this time) begged Napoleon to conquer England. Napoleon agreed with them that England must be conquered. "Let us destroy England!" he said, "that done, Europe is at our feet." But England was too strong on the sea for France to attack her, so Napoleon decided to occupy Egypt and so ruin England's trade in the Mediterranean and perhaps her power in India. The East was very attractive to the young soldier, who saw himself riding in India on the back of an elephant and taking from England all her possessions. He wanted to imitate Alexander the Great.

He made his preparations for the conquest of Egypt very quietly. In the summer of 1798, the French fleet arrived off Alexandria, and Bonaparte and his troops landed. The Turkish army was easily defeated at the battle of the Pyramids.



"Soldiers," Napoleon cried just before the battle, "forty centuries look down upon you from the top of yonder Pyramids."

But in the meantime the English Mediterranean fleet under Nelson discovered the French ships in a quiet bay near the mouth of the Nile, and destroyed them in the famous battle of the Nile. This victory made the English masters of the Mediterranean, cut Napoleon's army off from Europe, and ended his dreams of Eastern conquests.

After one or two victories over the Turks, Napoleon was defeated at Acre in Syria and decided to return to France. He could not bring his army back because of the victorious English fleet, but he himself in a little ship managed one dark night to escape the watchful eyes of Nelson and arrive safely in France. The French were glad to see him, for they needed his help against their enemies.

Napoleon now formed a new government of three Consuls. He himself was to be the first Consul and have practically all the power.

The next thing he did was to recapture Italy, which had been won back by Austria during his absence. This he did by completely defeating Austria. The Austrians were glad to make peace, and the other countries followed her example, so that in 1801 there was a general peace in which even England joined. She had defeated the French

army which Bonaparte had left in Egypt, and Pitt, the great minister, who had carried on the war, had resigned. Napoleon now longed to be Emperor of the French. In 1804 he persuaded the French to offer him this title.

The crowning of the new Emperor was a magnificent ceremony. Napoleon was dressed in a French coat of red velvet, adorned with gold and diamonds over which he wore a long purple robe of velvet and ermine. His wife, Josephine, was beside him in white satin glittering with diamonds.

The Pope came from Rome to perform the ceremony. But the new monarch seized the golden laurel crown before the Pope could take it up, and put it on his own head to show the world he owed the crown not to the head of the Church but to his own wisdom and military genius. He then crowned his wife Josephine.

Even before Napoleon crowned himself Emperor he had begun his famous plan for the invasion of England. He collected and trained a fine army at Boulogne; and built a great number of flat-bottomed boats to take the soldiers across to England. But he could not ferry his army across while English men-of-war were guarding the Channel. Perhaps he never meant to invade England, for when he found he could not by a trick put the English off the scent, he marched his fine army

away from Boulogne and used it to conquer Europe. It was when Napoleon had left Boulogne that Nelson won the famous battle of Trafalgar, 1805, and showed that England was unconquerable on the sea.

Napoleon now became master of Europe. Austria was conquered in 1805, Prussia in 1806. He made an alliance with Russia. Then he occupied Portugal and made his brother, Joseph, king of Spain, another brother was made ruler of Holland, and the kingdom of Naples was given to his brother-in-law, so that everywhere he had allies.

As soon as he was master of Europe, he began to restore law and order. He built magnificent roads along the Rhine and the Mediterranean and across the Alps. He beautified Paris by building wide streets and fine bridges, so that he converted an old-fashioned town into the most beautiful of modern capitals. But above all he arranged and improved the laws, so that to-day his laws are used not only in France but in many other parts of Europe.

But there was one country that stood out against this Master of Europe, and that country was England. Since Napoleon had failed to invade her, he now decided to ruin her by killing her trade. In 1806, he ordered that no one in Europe was to trade with England. No English trading vessels were to enter any port in Europe.

But now Napoleon's harsh measures were beginning to make the peoples of Europe rise against him. The first of these risings was in Portugal and Spain—the Peninsula—which hated the foreign rule. The Spaniards rose against Joseph, Napoleon's brother, England came to their aid; and so began the famous Peninsular War, which helped to bring about the downfall of Napoleon. One day you will read about the great British commander, Wellington, who fought so long and bravely in the Peninsular War. In 1812, while this war was going on, Napoleon found that Russia was not closing all her ports to English trading ships, so he determined to invade Russia and force her to close them. He collected an immense army, called the Grand Army, for this invasion.

Across the vast lands of Russia it marched, the Russian army retreating before it. But when at last Napoleon reached Moscow he found it a deserted city, and soon after he arrived a terrible fire broke out which destroyed a large part of it. There was no food save salted horse-flesh left for his hungry men in the blackened city. They could not stay there. So in the intense cold of a Russian winter a retreat had to be made. The story of the retreat of the Grand Army is one of the saddest in history. No pen can tell how the men suffered from cold and hunger; thousands dropped on the way; and there

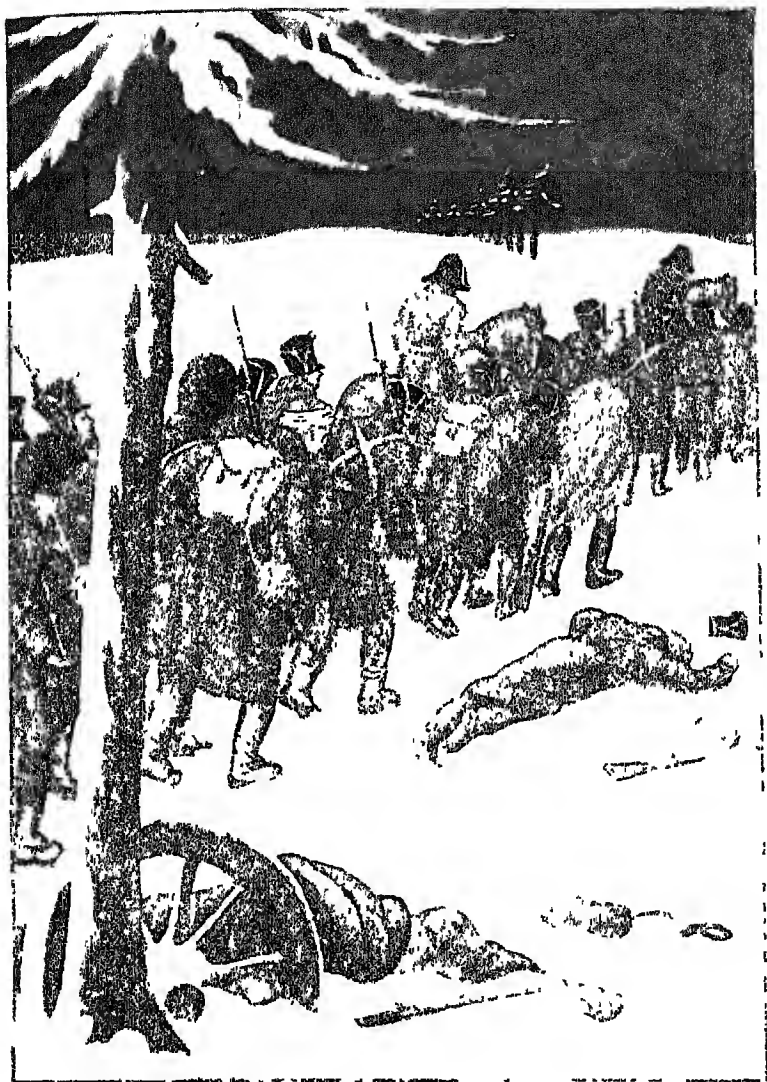


PLATE 4 —THE RETREAT FROM MOSCOW



were bands of Russian Cossacks with lances like needles always in pursuit and ready to attack the stragglers. When the hungry, ragged, frost-bitten army was nearing France, Napoleon left his men and hurried back alone.

He reached Paris at Christmas and found that all the nations of Europe were rising against him. Wellington in Spain was marching victoriously to the Pyrenees and would soon be able to invade France from the south.

Napoleon had no Grand Army to oppose his enemies. Most of his best men lay under the snows of Russia. With magnificent courage he raised a new army, a boy army, and did all he could to resist the allied armies, but it was in vain.

In 1814, France was invaded from the south by Wellington and from the east by Austria and Prussia. The Allies entered Paris in triumph. Napoleon was exiled to the little island of Elba, and Louis XVIII, the brother of the French king who was killed in the Revolution, became King of France.

Now it was thought that Europe would have peace, but in the spring of 1815 came the startling news that Napoleon had escaped. He was in the south of France, all the old soldiers were flocking to him, and his army was increasing as he marched to Paris. The new king, Louis XVIII, fled.

Once more the Powers of Europe gathered against Napoleon. The English and the Prussians were the first to get their armies ready. Napoleon hurried to meet them. He met the Prussian army first and defeated it. Then he marched on to meet the English army under Wellington at Waterloo.

All day long Napoleon's soldiers charged the steadfast red line of our soldiers again and again. He must break it. Then towards evening there appeared the defeated Prussian army. It had not been so badly defeated after all. This decided the day. Napoleon lost one of the most memorable battles in history.

This time he was banished with a few companions and guards to the remote island of St. Helena. Here he spent the years until his death in 1821 in brooding over his past glories, while Europe settled down in peace.



## CHAPTER XV

### SOME FAMOUS INVENTORS

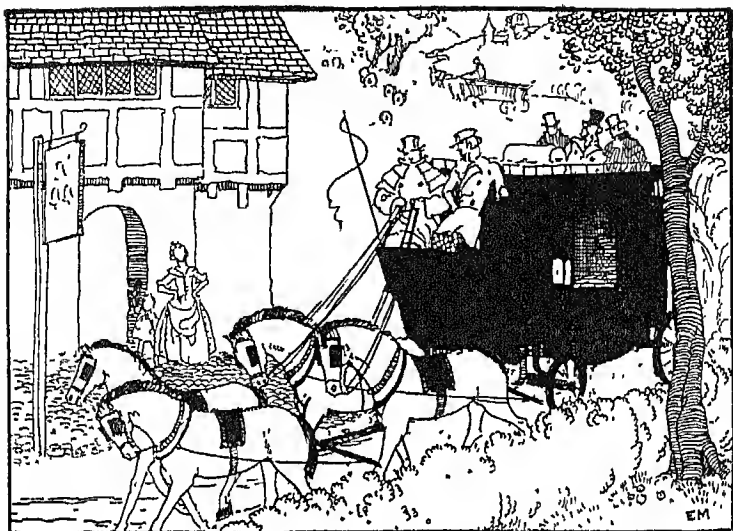
NOW that we can travel so easily from place to place in a motor-car over beautiful roads, it is hard to realize how difficult travelling was a couple of hundred years ago. A country road in the year 1700, and even later than that, was almost impassable in the winter except on horseback. Sometimes wagons sank in the mud up to their axles, and it took twenty horses to pull them out. Nobody dared go on a journey in a carriage in those days without taking spades and ropes with them to dig themselves out if they were stuck in the mud. Along those terrible roads a few fairly good stage-coaches had been in use for some years. But these often stuck fast or lost their way on dark heaths, because there was no proper track.

It was not very pleasant travelling in them, even in the summer, because they were slow and bumped along in a clumsy manner. There was always, too, the fear of being robbed by highwaymen, so that every time the stage-coach stopped the travellers looked out in alarm or shrank farther back in their corners.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century better coaches were built. Many attempts had been made to improve the roads. "Turnpike gates" were set up along the chief public roads, and all carriages and coaches had to pay a small fee before the gates were opened to let them pass through. With this turnpike money the roads were kept in repair. Some of these new coaches were called mail coaches because they carried the mails.

As the roads were now being used a great deal more, clever men began to find out better ways of making and mending the roads. One of these was a blind man named John Metcalf, another was named Macadam, and another Telford. Telford was also a builder of bridges. So by the year 1815 most of the high roads of England were broad, smooth, and solidly built. Along these new roads the mail coaches rolled at a speed of ten or twelve miles an hour. This was thought fast travelling. The coaches were so punctual in coming and going, that people used to set their clocks by them.

Better roads were needed because clever men were inventing a number of machines to make spinning and weaving easier and quicker. This meant that a great deal more woollen and cotton cloth was made and sold. Much of this cloth was sent abroad, and so improved methods of carrying the cloth to the seaports were really necessary.



A STAGE-COACH

Compare the coach with the wagon in the picture.

At first these new machines were driven by hand, then they were worked by water-wheels. So the workshops were built near streams and rivers. But as water sometimes ran short in dry weather, something better than this was needed, and this was the steam-engine. It is because of his steam-engine that James Watt is so famous.

He was born at Greenock in 1736. His father was a merchant, shipowner, builder, and maker of mathematical instruments. James was a thoughtful, delicate boy. He was very fond of mathematics. When he was eighteen, he was sent to London to

learn to be a maker of mathematical instruments like his father. As there was no stage-coach between Glasgow and London at this time, he had to go on horseback. After a year in London he returned, and a little later became maker of mathematical instruments to the University of Glasgow. While there he studied some models of old steam-engines that were used for pumping water out of the coal mines. They were clumsy and wasteful, but Watt saw how he could make better ones. The result of his inventions was that steam-driven machines could be used not only for pumping, but for grinding, spinning, and weaving. The improvements in the steam-engine meant the use of more coal and iron, of which England had plenty, and also the need of some better way of carrying heavy goods from place to place.

Before the good roads of 1815, a clever man, the Duke of Bridgewater, thought of building a canal to carry coal in barges. This was in 1761. It was a good idea, because the only other way of carrying coal was to take it in small quantities in baskets on horseback.

A man named James Brindley was the best of all the canal builders. He actually built 365 miles of canal, and was very clever at getting the water over difficult places. But even all the canals and better roads could not do all the carrying there

was, as more and more goods were sold. So the travelling steam-engine, or locomotive, was invented. It was first used to carry coal in the colliery yard, and George Stephenson was the man who invented it.

Stephenson began his career by helping his father, an engine fireman in a colliery. He could only read with difficulty because there were few schools in those days, but he took the greatest interest in pumping-engines and knew all about them. In 1814, he made a travelling-engine for the colliery. It ran on rails, and could draw a load of thirty tons. He called his engine the "Blucher," after the famous Prussian general who helped Wellington at Waterloo.

Soon after this it was proposed to lay a railway from Stockton-on-Tees inland to Darlington, like the railways in use in the colliery yards. But it was not until 1825 that Parliament agreed, because landlords did not like railways passing through their farms and parks.

However, after four years the railway was finished, and one of Stephenson's engines took a train of thirty-four trucks of coal along the line at a speed of fifteen miles an hour. The next month a coach for passengers was added to the train. It required some courage to ride on this first railway. The flames from the engine, the jerky movements,

and the noise of the machinery frightened all but the bravest.

Next it was decided to have a railway between Liverpool and Manchester. A prize was offered for the best engine, and Stephenson's engine, the "Rocket," won the prize. It ran at twenty-nine miles an hour. It was painted yellow and black with a white chimney. Stephenson's prize was £500.

So you see that while some Englishmen, like Wellington and Nelson, were fighting Napoleon, others were inventing many wonderful things. They gave us good roads, canals, spinning-machines, weaving-machines, stationary steam-engines, locomotives, and steamships. Some factories and workshops were busy building or helping to build all these things. Others were busy using these new machines. These inventions made Great Britain the greatest manufacturing country in the world.

## CHAPTER XVI

### A FAMOUS PATRIOT: GARIBALDI

YOU will remember that Napoleon's soldiers, when they first began to fight, fought for liberty. When they invaded other countries they talked to the people, too, about liberty, equality, and brotherhood. Some of Napoleon's greatest victories were over the Austrians in Italy, for the Austrians were masters of the northern part of Italy.

When Napoleon was defeated and peace was made, the Austrians again became masters of some of the best parts of Italy. But the Italians never forgot the days when Napoleon had set them free from Austria, and they longed to have their liberty again, and be all joined together in one big country of Italy. Now the country was divided into parts. The Austrians were masters of the northern part, the Pope ruled over a large part of the centre, and the southern part formed the kingdom of Naples and Sicily. In the north-west was another kingdom, Savoy.

But at last the Italians got their liberty, and Italy became one country, thanks to some great leaders and the efforts of the Italian people. One of these great leaders was Garibaldi.

Garibaldi was born at Nice in 1807, in a house by the seashore. Nice was then part of Italy. It belonged to the kingdom of Sardinia. The inhabitants of Nice were partly French and partly Italian by birth, but Garibaldi's family was Italian. His father was a simple merchant captain and Garibaldi grew up to love the sea. From the age of fifteen to the age of twenty-five he worked his way up from cabin-boy to captain on the merchant ships of Nice. The sea was the only school he attended. There his body and mind learnt to endure every hardship and he became a man of action. For life was not easy on the seas in his days; and he was captured and robbed by pirates on three different occasions.

When his ship went into Italian ports, he often talked there with men who loved Italy, and wanted her to be free. On his voyages farther east he often met Italians who were exiled from the country they loved, because they were trying to free her. He thus grew to realize that he had a country to fight for, and he loved Italy as perhaps no man has ever loved his country, for there was nothing selfish in his love.

One of the exiles whom Garibaldi met was a man named Mazzini, a scholar and writer, who longed to see Italy free and united. So Garibaldi joined him in his attempts to free Italy, and for this he, too, was exiled.

Since Garibaldi could not live in Italy and the



kings of other countries did not look upon him with favour, he went to live in South America, where many Italians went when they were discontented with their life in Italy. He stayed in South America for twelve years. He spent much of this time in fighting on the side of the oppressed, for there were many revolutions in South America, and Garibaldi was always ready to fight for freedom and for those who were suffering. In these struggles, he learnt a great deal about fighting.

In South America, too, he met his beloved wife, Anita. She was just as anxious to help in the cause of liberty as he was himself. Garibaldi tells us that "She looked upon battles as a pleasure, and the hardships of camp life as a pastime, so that however things might turn out, the future smiled on us, and the vast American deserts which rolled before our gaze seemed all the more delightful and beautiful for their wildness."

When Garibaldi was helping the people of Montevideo against their enemies, he raised an "Italian Legion," a company of soldiers who were all Italians. This was the first large body of his countrymen he ever commanded. They were nearly all Italian exiles, and Garibaldi enlisted them to fight for the liberty of Montevideo in return for the shelter it gave them. But even then Garibaldi was thinking that one day he might take them to

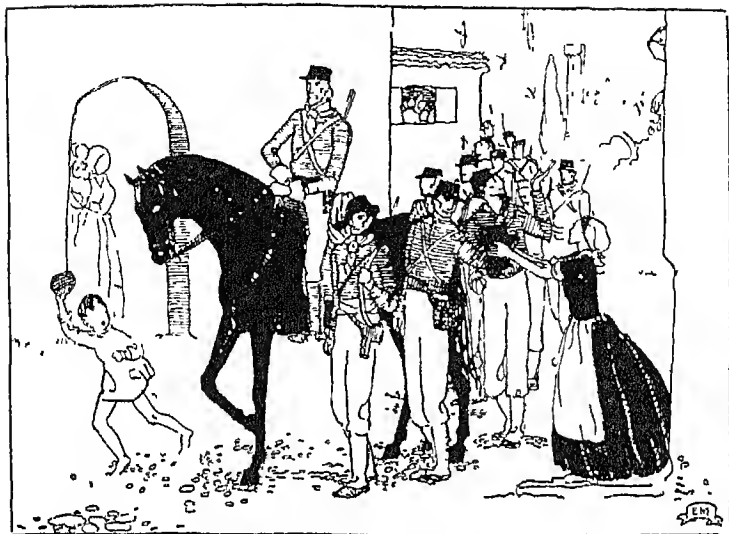
Italy to fight for her. For even when far away in South America, he never forgot his beloved land.

This Italian Legion wore "red shirts" as part of their uniform, and later on in Italy these red shirts became famous, for Garibaldi's soldiers always wore them. In memory of Italy, they carried "a black flag with a volcano in the midst—a symbol of Italy mourning, with the sacred fire in her heart." This banner can still be seen in the museum in Rome.

The Italian Legion was very successful and saved Montevideo. But Garibaldi refused all offers of land and reward for himself and his men, partly because he did not fight for money, and partly because he wanted to be free to return to Italy.

And now good news came to him from that country. The people were ready to rise against the Austrians to drive them out. In 1848, Garibaldi and his "Red Shirts" set out for home. It was a glad day when he arrived at Nice. There he found his old mother waiting for him. He had not seen her for many years. He had his dear wife and children with him. Italy would soon be free. All was peace and happiness.

From mountain and valley, town and village, volunteers came to enlist under Garibaldi. Mazzini was there, too, carrying a flag with his own watchword, "God and the People." The King of Sardinia was going to fight on their side. Events now happened quickly. The northern states drove out the



GARIBALDI AND HIS "RED SHIRTS" ON THE MARCH.

Austrians, the Pope fled from Rome, and a Roman Republic was proclaimed with Mazzini at its head.

But the Austrians were still strong and soon beat the King of Sardinia and the Italians. Also the French took up the cause of the Pope and sent an army against the Italians. But Mazzini's little Republic stood firm, and Garibaldi and his volunteers prepared to defend Rome against the French. Week after week Garibaldi and his "Red Shirts" kept the well-disciplined French army at bay. But the end was certain. At last Rome surrendered and the French army took possession, but not before

Garibaldi with his faithful followers had started off on their famous retreat.

Hunted over mountains and plains, Garibaldi had a terrible time, for no one dared help him. His wife, Anita, who was with him in all his adventures, died in his arms. With hopes crushed and heart weary, Garibaldi at last escaped from Italy in a boat. He was an exile once more, and went to the United States.

He was never perhaps more noble than in the days of his exile. He cheerfully set to work to earn his bread in the simplest way, first as a candlemaker, then as a merchant captain, and finally as a farmer. He was waiting until his country needed him again.

Then in 1859, Victor Emmanuel, King of Sardinia, the son of the king who had fought for the Italians in 1849, took up arms again against the Austrians. This time the French agreed to help the Italians in their struggle. Garibaldi came back at once to take part in the war. The result was that the Austrians were defeated and driven from the north of Italy, and Victor Emmanuel reigned there. But all parts of the north were not set free. The Austrians were allowed to keep Venice.

In the south, Sicily, Naples, and the lands around were still ruled by a worthless king who cared nothing for the union of Italy. But the people of Sicily now declared that they wanted to join the

other Italians in the struggle for freedom. When Garibaldi heard this, he made up his mind to help the Sicilians. He waited for no orders in this rash undertaking, but at the head of a thousand volunteers quietly set off for Sicily. It is interesting to remember that, among the volunteers who fought for Garibaldi, were many Englishmen and Frenchmen. He landed in the island in May, 1860. His name acted like magic and the Sicilians gladly welcomed him.

An army from Naples was sent to oppose him. After a sharp battle the well-trained soldiers fled before the red-shirted band of eager men, and Garibaldi was successful. In a short time the whole island was conquered. This was, perhaps, the crowning work of Garibaldi's life; he had overcome an army of 24,000 well-armed and well-disciplined men with a thousand ill-armed volunteers. He now became Dictator of Sicily in the name of Victor Emmanuel.

Next, he crossed the straits to Italy and marched on Naples to conquer southern Italy. Enthusiastic crowds followed him on his journey. "Viva Garibaldi," was shouted on every side as he entered Naples.

The King of Naples had fled, but his troops sullenly guarded the royal palace. They waited for the order to fire on Garibaldi; he was the enemy of their king. It was an anxious moment. One shot and Garibaldi's work would be all undone.

He stood up in his carriage and gazed earnestly at the uncertain troops. They could easily shoot him now, but, amazed perhaps at his boldness, they suddenly threw down their guns and shouted "Viva Garibaldi!"

Two months later Victor Emmanuel marched south and took possession of Naples. Its worthless king gave up the throne and all southern Italy became part of the kingdom of Italy.

Then having laid his conquests at the feet of Victor Emmanuel, the brave-hearted Garibaldi, refusing all honours or decorations for himself, went quietly back to his farm at Caprera, a rocky island near Sardinia.

As a result of his work and the work of his "Thousand," most of Italy was united in 1861 under one king. Only Rome, still ruled by the Pope, and Venice, still under the Austrians, were left. These were added within ten years, and some land in the north-east was added after the Great War.

No one perhaps was ever more loved than Garibaldi, and when he paid a visit to our island, he became at once the great hero of the English people, and, it is said, received an ovation so tremendous that it frightened our Prime Minister, who was perhaps glad to see him go back to Caprera. It was in this island home of Caprera that Garibaldi died in 1882.

## CHAPTER XVII

### A FAMOUS QUEEN. VICTORIA

WE now come to the story of one of the most famous women in English history—Queen Victoria. She was born on the 24th of May, 1819, and was the grand-daughter of King George III.

When she was only eight months old, her father died and she was brought up by her mother at Kensington Palace. There she lived a quiet, happy life, and was carefully trained by her mother for the high position she might one day hold. She was taught to be "self-reliant, brave, and systematical." She studied harder and had fewer pleasures than very many little English girls.

When she was twelve years of age, her mother let her know that one day, when her uncle died, she would be queen, and this is what the little girl said : "It is a very solemn thing. Many a child would boast, but they don't know the difficulty. There is splendour, but there is responsibility, *I will be good.*" Then, some years later, in 1837, very early on a June morning, her uncle, the old king, died at Windsor, and messengers came hurrying to bring the tidings

to the young princess, who was now eighteen years of age.

The Archbishop of Canterbury and another official arrived at Kensington Palace at five o'clock in the morning. It was some time before they could arouse anyone to let them in. When at last they were admitted, the attendant on the young princess did not want to wake her, because she was sleeping so peacefully. "But we are come on business of state to the Queen, and even her sleep must give way to that," they said.

Then she was brought to them. Young as she was, she received them with quiet dignity, although clad but in wrapper and shawl, with her hair falling over her shoulders and her feet hurriedly thrust into slippers.

So the Princess Victoria became Queen of England and a happy time began for her country. Her uncles had been poor rulers and not very good men. But Victoria meant to change all that. She kept to the promise of her childhood, "I will be good." When she came to the throne, the new inventions and discoveries we read about in Chapter XV were coming into daily use. Her reign lasted more than sixty-three years. It covered a great part of the nineteenth century—a period of wonderful progress in the arts and sciences.

When she first came to the throne, there were



few modern conveniences, such as gas, electricity, the sewing machine, the telephone, and countless other things. By the end of her reign all these were in use.

The year after she became Queen railways were opened all over the country ; a regular service of steamships began between Liverpool and the New World ; and yet another means was thought of for bridging over time and space—this was the penny post. Then came a yet faster means of communication, through the use of an entirely new power—electricity—for the electric telegraph was first used in 1842.

So in Queen Victoria's reign, men and countries were no longer cut off from each other as in the olden days ; colonies grew nearer to their mother country, and our present British Empire grew up and was bound together by steamship and railway. We shall see later the part Queen Victoria played in building up our Empire.

In 1840, the Queen married her cousin, Albert, a young German prince with whom she was very happy. He helped her in her work and taught her many things. He was wise, thoughtful, and studious, and loved a quiet home life.

It was Prince Albert who thought of the Great Exhibition that was opened in 1851. A palace of glass and iron was erected in Hyde Park, and to it

were sent examples of all the new inventions: spinning-machines, weaving-machines, engines of different kinds. There were also manufactured goods from all parts of the world, so that people could see what wonderful progress had been made.

Queen Victoria was a very busy woman. She had long interviews with her ministers, for she wanted to know and understand all that was going on. She had many wearisome letters to read and write, many meetings and ceremonies to attend. But the Queen neglected nothing.

Soon little children came to take up still more of her leisure. It was then that she decided to find a quieter home than Windsor Castle. She bought a home at Osborne in the Isle of Wight. Here by the sea, woods, and streams, father, mother, and children spent delightful days.

But still happier times were in store for the Queen when away in the Highlands of Scotland. Here her husband planned a castle of his own designing—Balmoral Castle. Both husband and wife loved the Highlands and the sturdy folk of the Highlands, their dress, their customs, and their bagpipes. The very happiest days of the Queen's life were passed among them.

We must remember that Queen Victoria was not only great because she was a good and wise Queen, but because she was also a good and wise

mother. English people loved her because she showed them how to live a simple, happy home life.

One day you will read about her great servants, Gladstone and Beaconsfield and others, and how they helped her to rule. But the picture of Victoria that remains in the minds of most people is that of a mother trying as carefully as possible to bring up her family to the service of England.

The greatest sorrow of the Queen was the death of her husband in 1861. He had been a helpmate to her in every way and she sadly missed him. The woman who had been so happy now became a very sad one. It was many years before she could again take up her work with the same cheerful zeal. But she had her children to comfort her, and many grandchildren, too. These she delighted in, and their many birthdays kept her busy. So in course of time the Queen took up her work again and filled her days with duties, letters, and family gatherings. Her mottoes throughout her life were: "Work" and "Promptness."

At the beginning of her reign, people knew little about the colonies, some statesmen even thought them rather a nuisance, but the invention of steamships and the electric telegraph brought the colonies nearer to us, and helped to make them one with the mother country.

The Queen saw that she was not only Queen of

Great Britain but Queen everywhere where Britons' sons had made their homes. Although the Indian Mutiny broke out in 1857 and cast much gloom over England, it was the beginning of better days. In 1877, the Queen was proclaimed Empress of India, and promised "to respect the rights, dignity, and honour of native princes as her own." Dusky Indians were brought over to guard their Empress, which they did with the utmost devotion, and the Queen heroically tried to learn their language.

The wise idea was growing also in the Queen's reign of letting all the colonies become real, self-governing countries. India itself is now on the road to self-government, but in a country where so many people cannot read or write progress must be slow.

Nothing perhaps shows so well how united the Queen's Empire had become as the great day of her Diamond Jubilee in 1897. It tells better than a list of her deeds or words how much she was loved and how vast were the lands she ruled over. Many say it was the most magnificent sight of modern times. St. Paul's Cathedral was the scene of thanksgiving, and a great procession escorted the Queen through the streets of London. Practically all the kings and queens of Europe were there. But what is more important, it brought together for the first time statesmen and others from the



QUEEN VICTORIA'S DIAMOND JUBILEE, 1897.

Notice the Indian Princes in the procession.

widely scattered British dominions beyond the sea. There were richly clad Indians, sturdy Maoris from New Zealand, lancers from Tasmania and the Australian colonies, troopers from Canada, mounted soldiers from the Cape, volunteers from Natal. There were men from Trinidad, Malta, and Jamaica, Haussas from West Africa, Dyak police from North Borneo, men from the Straits Settlements, Hong-kong, and Ceylon—never had London seen such a gathering before. Although our colonies, or dominions as we must now call them, had nearly all their own governments and were, in one sense, inde-

pendent of the mother country, the Crown was the golden link that had brought them all together. They were all subjects of the Queen-Empress.

The last days of the great Queen's life were saddened by the outbreak of the South African War, 1900. Her health began to fail, but she still kept on with her work.

In 1901, at the age of eighty-one, after a long reign of over sixty-three years, the great Queen passed away. All England mourned. From every corner of the great Empire that had grown up during her reign, came expressions of the deepest sorrow. Her example as wife and mother, her troubles, her sympathy with her people, and above all her unflinching devotion to the duties of state had won her the love of everyone.

Her court was pure ; her life serene ;  
God gave her peace ; her land reposed ;  
A thousand claims to reverence closed  
In her as mother, wife, and Queen.

## EXERCISES AND QUESTIONS

### CHAPTER I

- (1) Where was Macedonia? What was the land like and the people?
- (2) Tell the story of Alexander and the Gordian knot.
- (3) What became of Alexander's great Empire when he died? What good do you think he did?
- (4) The coloured frontispiece is a picture of the end of a battle. What battle do you think it was? Try to tell the story of the battle.
- (5) Make a list of the things Alexander's soldiers are collecting.
- (6) Which man in the coloured frontispiece do you think is Alexander the Great? Describe his dress. Try to make a drawing of him and paint it.
- (7) Make a drawing of the tent of Darius and some of the things the Greek soldiers are collecting. (Look carefully at the coloured picture.)

### CHAPTER II

- (1) What do you know about the town of Carthage? Why did Rome and Carthage fight?
- (2) What was the cause of the second Punic War?
- (3) Describe Hannibal's army. Why could he get no help from Carthage during the many years he was fighting Rome?
- (4) Which of these two great men do you like better—Alexander or Hannibal? Give your reasons.
- (5) Imagine you were a soldier in Hannibal's army. Tell the difficulties you had in crossing the Alps. Make drawings to illustrate your answer. (Look at the picture carefully.)

- (6) Why was it better for Rome to win in the war than Carthage?
- (7) Make a model of the Alps in clay or plasticene, and show the narrow paths that Hannibal had to cross. Make some soldiers of paper. (Look at your picture.)

## CHAPTER III

- (1) Describe the villa where Julius Cæsar lived and tell something about his life as a boy.
- (2) What lands did Cæsar conquer and rule for Rome? Tell about his visit to Britain.
- (3) What do you know about Pompey? Why were Cæsar and Pompey rivals?
- (4) Why did Cæsar hesitate to cross the Rubicon at the head of his army? Write what you know about this event.
- (5) Why was Cæsar put to death? What do you think of Cæsar? Who ruled Rome after his death?
- (6) Make in clay or plasticene a model of the coast of Gaul. Make the Roman ships of paper or plasticene. Notice they are built to hold a great many men. Look at the picture on page 23 to see how to arrange the scene.
- (7) Imagine you are one of the soldiers in the picture. Tell the story of your preparations and how you started.

## CHAPTER IV

- (1) What were the boundaries of the Roman Empire in the north and west? Who lived beyond these boundaries? (Look at the map.)
- (2) Why did the Emperor Constantine build a new capital farther east? Write all you know about it.
- (3) Who were the Huns? Write what you know about them.
- (4) Tell the story of Alaric and his strange burial.
- (5) What do you think made the wandering Goths leave Greece and turn westward? Where did they finally make a kingdom?



- (6) Look at the picture carefully that shows the Goths plundering Rome. Notice that the buildings are like Greek buildings. Why is this? How do you know which men are Goths and which Romans? Name some of the treasures the Goths collected.
- (7) Make a drawing or a model of one of the Roman buildings you can see.

## CHAPTER V

- (1) Tell all you know about Muhammad's early life. Why was he called the "camel-man of the desert"?
- (2) How did Muhammad get the idea of one God? What did he call his religion?
- (3) Tell the story of how Muhammad once escaped from his enemies.
- (4) What is the book about Muhammad's religion called? Are there many Muhammadans now? Where do they live?
- (5) Tell how the Arabs helped learning. Write the numbers 1 to 9 as the Romans wrote them and as the Arabs wrote them.
- (6) Write a short account of a pilgrimage to Mecca. (Use the coloured picture.)
- (7) Describe the dresses of the Arabs in the coloured picture on page 36. What are the buildings in the background?
- (8) Model in clay a mosque with its domed roof. Do not forget the tall tower. What is it used for? Model some flat-roofed Arab houses. (Look at your picture carefully)

## CHAPTER VI

- (1) Where was the first home of the Franks? What lands did they come to rule over?
- (2) What do you know about the knight Roland?
- (3) Tell how Charles the Great was made Emperor of the Romans in 800 (Look at the picture on page 41)

- (4) Write down some of the wise things done by Charles the Great Where did he get some of his clever teachers from ?
- (5) Who were the Lombards, the Moors, Charles Martel ?
- (6) Notice how the Pope or Bishop of Rome is dressed in the picture. Describe the dress and make a drawing of it. You can see another bishop at the side holding a cross.
- (7) Make a model of this scene Show the pillars supporting the roof of the church and the steps on which the bishop stands. Cut out figures to show bishop and clergy and Charlemagne and some Franks. Notice Charlemagne's cloak

## CHAPTER VII

- (1) What were the deeds a true knight had to do ?
- (2) Get your teacher to read to you the descriptions of tournaments from Scott's "Ivanhoe" and "Talisman"
- (3) Give some of the reasons why people made the difficult journey to the Holy Land.
- (4) What led to the wars known as the Crusades ?
- (5) Tell the story of the First Crusade
- (6) Tell what you know of the Third Crusade and the Children's Crusade.
- (7) What did the people of Europe learn from the East through the Crusaders ? Make drawings of some of these things
- (8) Make a drawing of a Crusader's shield. Perhaps you can draw the Crusader on horseback ? (Look carefully at the picture on page 45.)
- (9) Find out from the picture what different kinds of people went to the Holy Land as crusaders or pilgrims.

## CHAPTER VIII

- (1) What are monks ? Write what you know about them.
- (2) What do you know about the early life of St Francis ? Tell how he became a friar.

- (3) What work did the friars do ? Why were people so fond of them ?
- (4) Tell what you know about the death of St. Francis. What happened to the friars after his death ?
- (5) Make a drawing of a friar. (Look carefully at the picture on page 53)
- (6) Copy out carefully St. Francis's little sermon to the birds. Draw or paste in your book some pictures of little birds.
- (7) What were the streets of Assisi like in the days of St. Francis ? What kind of people listened to his teaching ? (Look carefully at the picture)

## CHAPTER IX

- (1) What do you know about the early life of Joan of Arc ? Why did she think she could save France ?
- (2) Why were the French so unhappy in 1428 ?
- (3) Tell the story of how Joan of Arc met the Dauphin and saved Orleans
- (4) What became of Joan of Arc ? What do you think she did for France ? What story do the French people tell about her death ?
- (5) Look carefully at the picture of Joan of Arc entering Orleans. Draw the gate of the town to show the drawbridge and the portcullis. (The portcullis is the wooden grating with iron spikes that slides up and down in the doorway, to make the door still stronger. It is drawn up in the picture, but you can see a little bit of it.)
- (6) Make a model in cardboard of the walls of Orleans. Have a moat all round and a gateway on each side. Make drawbridges to go up and down with string, and a portcullis to slide up and down in paper grooves.
- (7) Notice the French *fleur-de-lis* on Joan's flag. It is like three golden leaves bound together. Can you draw and paint one ?

# CHAPTER X

- (1) Why were spices so useful to the people of Europe? Where did they come from?
- (2) Why did trade with the East become difficult? For what different reasons did merchants want to find a new way to the Spice Islands?
- (3) What do you know about the boyhood of Christopher Columbus?
- (4) Explain how Columbus hoped to reach India and the Spice Islands. What rulers did he ask to help him?
- (5) Tell how Queen Isabella of Spain helped Columbus and the story of his first voyage. How can you tell from the coloured picture that Columbus is nearing land?
- (6) What lands did Columbus discover and what did he think he had discovered? Explain how he made this mistake. How did this new world get its name?
- (7) Draw and paint the ship of Columbus or make a cardboard model of it.

# CHAPTER XI

- (1) Give all the reasons you can why men were becoming wiser and more learned in the fifteenth century.
- (2) Tell what you know about the early life of Martin Luther. Where did he first preach and teach?
- (3) Explain what caused the quarrel between Luther and the Pope. How did the Pope decide to punish Luther?
- (4) Describe the meeting at Worms where Luther appeared before the Emperor Charles V. (Look at the picture on page 73) Can you see the two messengers from the Pope, monks, bishops and richly dressed Spaniards?
- (5) What great work did Luther do while he was hiding from Charles V?

- (6) Copy the two-headed eagle, the badge of Charles V. Why do you think the Emperors chose the eagle for their emblem? The eagle should be painted black on a yellow ground (for gold). Do any nations use the eagle as their badge to-day?
- (7) Make a model of the meeting at Worms. First make the throne with the eagle above, then the crimson velvet chairs at the side, the table and books. Have a richly papered background. Draw and cut out some figures.

## CHAPTER XII

- (1) Tell what you know about Louis XIV's palace at Versailles.
- (2) Name some of the clever people who came to Louis XIV's court at Versailles and tell what they did
- (3) Why were so many beautiful things made in the reign of Louis XIV? Name some of these things.
- (4) In what different ways did Louis XIV try to show his greatness?
- (5) What great English general was able to defeat Louis XIV's army? Name one of his victories. How did the Dutch people save themselves from Louis XIV's strong army?
- (6) Look carefully at the picture on page 77. Then describe the dress of the lords and ladies in the reign of Louis XIV. Read again what it says in Chapter XII about their dress.
- (7) Make a drawing of Louis XIV's throne. Perhaps you can make a model of this court scene. Draw and paint the big windows on a strip of cardboard to represent one side of the room. Use a compass and rule. Then make the throne and chairs from cardboard, etc. Cut out some figures to walk in your court.

## CHAPTER XIII

- (1) Who were the first peoples to make their homes in the New World? In what parts did the French settle?

- (2) Tell exactly in what part of North America the British people had colonies. How many British colonies were there? Give some of the reasons that made British colonists settle in the New World.
- (3) What do you know about George Washington's early life? How do you think it helped to fit him for the future? Tell the story of his journey to the French commander on the Ohio. Make drawings to illustrate your answer. (Look at the picture on page 83.)
- (4) Why did the French and English colonists in America fight? What were the results of this war?
- (5) Give all the reasons you can find that explain why the Americans were victorious in the war with Britain.
- (6) Copy out what the Americans say of George Washington. Draw and paint underneath the first flag of the United States. (In one corner thirteen stars on a blue ground, four at the top, then rows of three underneath; the rest of the flag thirteen red and white horizontal lines.)

#### CHAPTER XIV

- (1) How did Napoleon first become famous?
- (2) Tell how Napoleon made himself Emperor of the French and then master of Europe. His ensign as Emperor was an eagle. Can you draw it?
- (3) What good things did Napoleon do for France?
- (4) Who were the first peoples of Europe to rise against Napoleon? What do you know about this war?
- (5) What made Napoleon lead his Grand Army into Russia? Tell what happened to the Grand Army. (Look at the coloured picture.)
- (6) Why was Napoleon defeated in 1814? Tell the story of the end of his life.
- (7) Which do you think was the greatest conqueror—Hannibal, Alexander, or Napoleon? Give reasons for your answer.

- (8) Imagine you are one of the soldiers in the picture. Tell the story of your return to France.

## CHAPTER XV

- (1) Describe a ride along a country road about the year 1700. What attempts were made to improve these roads? Name some famous road-makers.
- (2) Why were better roads needed at this time?
- (3) Write what you know of James Watt.
- (4) Make a list of all the wonderful things invented in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Read the last paragraph of Chapter XV carefully. This will help you. Try to make a drawing of each thing.
- (5) Make a drawing of an inn where a stage coach stopped in the early days. Design a good signboard for it. (Look at the picture on page 99.)
- (6) Make a drawing or a model of a coach. (Look at your picture.)

## CHAPTER XVI

- (1) In what way was Italy not a free country in Garibaldi's days?
- (2) Tell what you know of Garibaldi's early life.
- (3) Who were Garibaldi's "Red Shirts?" (Make a drawing of one from the picture on page 107.)
- (4) Describe the attempt made by Garibaldi and Mazzini to free Italy in 1848. What was the result?
- (5) Suppose yourself a "Red Shirt" helping Garibaldi to conquer Sicily and enter Naples. Write an account of your journey with him.
- (6) Write what you know of Mazzini, Victor Emmanuel, Anita.
- (7) Make a drawing of the banner carried by Garibaldi's Italian Legion or "Red Shirts." (Read the description carefully.)

CHAPTER XVII

- (1) Tell what you know about Queen Victoria when she was a girl
- (2) Tell some of the changes that took place in Queen Victoria's reign to make home life more comfortable. Illustrate your answer with drawings.
- (3) Write what you know about Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Name all the parts of the British Empire represented. (Look at the picture on page 117.)
- (4) In what ways do you think Queen Victoria was a great Queen?
- (5) What do you know about our Empire in the days of Queen Victoria? How was it made more united?
- (6) Make a scene to show the procession at Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Perhaps you can find figures to cut out to represent the different colonies. What part of London does the picture show?
- (7) Make a time chart by fastening together thirteen pieces of brown paper, or thirteen post cards. Copy a sentence or short paragraph from each chapter on them, and put a date under each. Or, if you like, make thirteen little drawings, one for each chapter.



